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21 November 1984

SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

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INDONESIA

RESIGNATION CONFUSES YOGYA PPP MEMBERS

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 4 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] The resignations of Syaiful Mudjab, chairman of the Regional Exective Council [DPW] of the United Development Party (PPP) branch in Yogyakarta (DIY), and his deputy, Imam Suhadi, have confused the members of the party.

Toha Abdurrahman made this statement to MERDEKA in the DPR [Parliament] building in Senayan, Jakarta, as he was about to meet with Nuddin Lubis, deputy chairman of the DPR.

He said that Syaiful Mudjab's resignation as leader and member of the PPP was unofficial; officially it has to wait for the DIY regional conference of the PPP, to be held soon.

Toha Abdurrahman said that Syaiful Mudjab's statement that the PPP is no longer the right place for the political aspirations of the Islamic community, especially the Muslim scholars, was made in his capacity as a private person and not as chairman of the DPW of the DIY NU [Muslim Scholars Party].

Toha, who is an instructor at the Sunan Kalijaga IAIN [National Islamic Institute], said, "According to the Muslim scholars' MUNAS [National Conference] which took place in Situbondo last December, the NU has given its members the freedom to channel their political aspirations."

He admitted that a day after Syaiful Mudjab's resignation it was agreed that he would replace him as chairman of the PPP DPW.

Toha, who attended the first PPP conference in Jakarta as a representative of the DIY DPW, added that the Islamic community's struggle is not sporadic or individual but is continuous and universal. The hope is that it can achieve all its goals; if it cannot, this does not mean that they should be abandoned.

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CSO:4213/25

'RMS' BROADCAST CLARIFIED

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 5 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] L. P. van Vliet, Dutch consul in Jakarta, said on Tuesday [4 September] that the broadcasts on Radio Hilversum are not the Voice of the RMS [Republic of South Maluku] but rather the Voice of Maluku.

The Voice of Maluku broadcasts are in Indonesian and are aimed at the estimated 40,000 people from Maluku now living in Holland.

Van Vliet also said that the broadcasts are aimed only at those people; because they are in Indonesian there are very few Dutch people who can follow them.

The programs are of a general nature, about the life of people from Maluku, the problems they face in the areas of housing, education, etc. There are also occasional news items quoted from sources in Maluku, all of which are aimed at fostering the local culture and society.

Van Vliet said such programs are not only for Moluccans but that they are also for other minorities in Holland, such as Greeks, Turks, Italians, etc.

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COUNTER-PURCHASE TRADE PROGRESS DESCRIBED

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 8 Sep 84 pp 1, 11

[Text] The government will continue to carry out its policies of counter-purchase trade as part of the program to increase nonoil exports.

Sjukri Alimuddin, a Department of Trade spokesman, made this statement on Friday [7 September] in Jakarta.

He said that in the past many governments had rejected these policies; but when they had gotten further information from government officials, they came to understand Indonesian policies.

For example, he mentioned that formerly the United States and Japan had rejected the counter-purchase policy, but now they are among the top 10 countries having counter-purchase agreements with Indonesia.

Twenty countries have now made counter-purchase trade agreements with the Indonesian government.

They include: West Germany, Japan, the United States, Rumania, Singapore, South Korea, Canada, Holland, England, Panama, East Germany, Italy, France, Mexico, Hong Kong, Australia, Austria, Switzerland and Malaysia.

The 10 largest contractors are: West Germany with \$241,320,000, Japan with \$152,400,000, the United States with \$87,930,000, Rumania with \$61,950,000, Singapore with \$59,890,000, South Korea with \$54,280,000, Canada with \$49,970,000, Holland with \$35,890,000, England with 22,780,000, and Panama with \$11,700,000.

Counter-purchase Contracts

The dollar value of counter-purchase contracts signed by foreign suppliers from 1 January 1982, when this policy went into effect, up to the end of July 1984 has reached \$817,090,000.

Counter-purchase contracts which have already been signed include those for supplying fertilizer, electric generators for the PLN [National Electricity Company], contraceptives, expanding the Bekasi Spinning Plant, supplementary raw materials for medicines, 22 diesel locomotives for the Department of Transportation, telephone exchanges, railroad cars, equipment for the Ombilin coal mines and pesticide factory equipment.

POSSIBLE NU RECONCILIATION IN WAKE OF PPP CONGRESS

Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 8 Sep 84 p 12

[Text] The fear is groundless that after the PPP [United Development Party] congress NU [Moslem Scholars] members will leave the PPP en masse. As of the end of this week, only Syaiful Mujab, chairman of PPP's Yogyakarta DPW [Regional Executive Council] has left the party and resigned from the Yogyakarta DPW leadership. One other person also withdrew--Imam Suhadi, deputy chairman of the Yogyakarta DPW--but he is from the MI [Indonesian Muslims] faction.

Syaiful's decision was announced after the meeting of the Yogyakarta DPW of the NU took place 29 August. The reason given: he thinks that the PPP is no longer the right place for the Islamic community, in particular for the members of the NU, to channel their political aspirations. "I'm now a free man. I haven't decided where to go," said Syaiful.

Syaiful said that his resignation was not a matter of winning or losing a battle. It was also not a matter of whether Naro or somebody else became general chairman. "It's because the aspirations of the Islamic community are no longer reflected by the PPP. In addition, he said, "Islamic norms have been abandoned," for example, the basic principle of consensus upheld in the Koran.

However, in an interview with Syahril Chili from TEMPO, Syaiful admitted that the main reason for his resignation is that "NU was slaughtered at the PPP congress" last month. Before the congress, Syaiful, as chairman of the PPP DPW, was chosen to be the delegate from his region and came to Jakarta. He failed to appear at the meetings, because the PPP DPP [Central Executive Council], it turned out, picked somebody else as delegate from Yogyakarta. There are very few NU members in the new PPP DPP.

Syaiful was understandably very disappointed. "I am ready to face any risks resulting from my resignation," he said last week. Syaiful said that it was up to the members of the community themselves to decide where to channel their political aspirations. This depends on the edict handed down by NU's Muslim scholars. This edict, Syaiful said, will be determined by a formal forum, an NU congress or at the very least a meeting of the NU PB Suriah [Advisory Executive Board].

Before the congress, Syaiful intimated that an edict from the NU Muslim scholars might be handed down if the outcome of the congress was disappointing.

When a reporter asked about Syaiful's resignation and the possibility of an edict from the NU Muslim scholars, J. Naro, general chairman of the PPP DPP, answered firmly, "It's his right to say what he wishes. This is a democracy of opinions. If the Muslim scholars are going to issue an edict, that's their right. If so, the Muslim scholars in the PPP will also issue an edict. But I hope that is not going to happen," he said loudly.

Is it true that the NU Muslim scholars are going to issue an edict? In a written interview with TEMPO, K H Ali Maksum, general chairman of the NU, explained that his group was still collecting information. "After we have finished, it's up to the NU PB [Executive Board] or to an NU congress, which God willing will be held soon, to decide whether to issue an edict," said Kiai Ali. He has already asked Abdurrachman Wahid to call a meeting of the NU PB.

Ali Maksum refused to comment on the outcome of the PPP congress. He admitted that he has assigned Syaiful Mujab to monitor the progress of the NU congress. "And he has given his report." His response to Syaiful's resignation was, "I think this is consistent with the decisions taken at the national meeting of NU Muslim scholars in Situbondo concerning the political rights of NU members. The future course of the NU will return to the basic principles of 1926, i.e., it is not a political organization."

The attitude of the NU, it seems, will only be decided upon officially at an NU meeting to take place after the mass organization law now being discussed in the DPR [Parliament] is passed. Abdurrachman Wahid explained to TEMPO that the NU will not decide on its attitude until the congress. And that attitude, he said, "may be clearer than the Situbondo meeting's recommendation, which only closed off the possibility of NU leaders holding positions in the PPP."

It is not yet certain when the NU congress will take place. The mass organization bill, it is hoped, can be passed during the current DPR session, which ends in December. There are, in fact, plans for holding an NU congress in Rabiul Awwal (December). It may take place in the Sukorejo Muslim school in Situbondo or in the Tebuireng Muslim school in Jombang.

Whatever NU's attitude, the Naro-led PPP DPP will probably not pay much attention to it. The important thing is that the new leadership has been recognized by the government. Last week, the Naro-led PPP DPP introduced itself to President Soeharto at the Bina Graha [president's residence]. Naro said that the president congratulated them and said that he hoped that the PPP leadership would accept PANCASILA [Five Principles of the Nation] as its basic principle. "Not just accept it, but accept it sincerely and with conviction."

Zamroni, an important NU figure who holds the position of first chairman in the PPP DPP, obviously has the attitude. "What can the NU do about it?" when he said, "As far as the DPP structure is concerned, there is no problem. Imam Sofwan, Imron Rosyadi and Mr Munasir have accepted it. From that viewpoint the NU itself has no problem."

Zamroni denied the rumor that F-PP [United Development Faction] members who had

not supported the new PPP DPP would be recalled. "There is no indication that they will be recalled. Recalling people is not that simple unless they have gone against DPP policies," he said.

The PPP meeting which "slaughtered the NU" has had some good consequences. There have recently been signs of a reconciliation between the Cipete group (led by Idham Chalid) and the Situbondo group (led by the Muslim scholars). Abdurrahman Wahid admitted that these signs existed. "There are informal signs of reconciliation. This means that progress has been made. Only the final form remains to be worked out," he said.

Another young member of the NU added, "We now know who actually made the NU and who made use of the split. We didn't realize this until after the PPP meeting last month."

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NORTH SUMATRAN TIMBER ESTATES PLANNED

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 8 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] The government is making 100,000 hectares of barren land in North Sumatra available for timber estates to provide the raw materials for textiles, said the Department of Forestry on Friday [7 September].

This barren land will be planted with long-fiber pine trees to be processed into pulp and staple fiber. The staple fiber can be further processed into raw materials for textiles.

A forestry department official said that Minister of Forestry Soedjarwo had recently discussed the construction of a textile plant which would use this wood as raw material with the government of Finland and with private Finnish companies.

Soedjarwo concluded from these discussions that many kinds of Indonesian wood can be turned into raw materials for textiles.

Textiles made from wood fiber are as good as those made from cotton or polyester.

It is estimated that building a plant for processing wood into staple fibers requires a capital investment of about 200 million rupiahs.

The minister of forestry said that there are some businessmen in the Indonesian private sector who are interested in building such a plant and that they now own long-fiber pine trees whose bark is ready to be stripped.

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'PRIBUMI' IN HIPPI CHANGED TO 'PUTRA'

Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 8 Sep 84 pp 14, 15

[Text] The suggestion made by PANGAB [Armed Forces Commander] L. B. Moerdani to replace the terms 'pri' [native] and 'nonpri' [nonnative] has borne fruit. The 531 participants at the second national meeting of the Indonesian Native Entrepreneur Association (HIPPI) agreed in Medan last Saturday [1 September] to replace the term 'pribumi' [native] in the name of their organization with the term 'putra' [native son]. HIPPI is now the Indonesian Native-Sons Entrepreneurs Association. However, Probosutedjo, a leading businessman and chairman of HIPPI's development board, said, "Changing the name is not being done in order to please PANGAB L. B. Moerdani."

Gen Moerdani made his proposal at a meeting of KADIN [Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry] in Jakarta in the middle of March. He considers that the terms 'pri' and 'nonpri' are a "manifestation of an exclusive attitude and are discriminatory." At that time KADIN decided it would no longer distinguish between those of native and nonnative descent, different ethnic groups or different places of origin.

Gen Moerdani also gave a speech at the HIPPI meeting. He repeated his suggestion in an indirect way when he said that "the existence of certain attitudes in the world of business narrows the entrepreneurs' freedom of movement." He considers that vestiges of discriminatory attitudes only serve to create a counterproductive psychological situation. Stereotyping people can foster the negative features of the term SARA (ethnic group, religion, race and intergroup). "Such attitudes should be gotten rid of," he said.

The East Java branch of HIPPI was the first to suggest that the term 'pribumi' be dropped. At its meeting last March, there were three suggestions for names which would keep the acronym HIPPI: Indonesian Fighting Entrepreneurs Association, Indonesian PANCASILA [Five Principles of the Nation] Entrepreneurs Association, and Indonesian Native-Sons Entrepreneurs Association. The last suggestion was accepted as the one to send to the national meeting in Medan. Suratman, first chairman of the East Java HIPPI DPD [Regional Executive Board], said, "We accepted the term 'putra' because only the best 'native sons' have received the Mahaputra medal."

Probosutedjo admitted that the term 'pribumi,' used by HIPPI since it was formed 8 years ago, gives the impression of racism although it was taken from the GBHN [Main Directions of State Policy]. He thinks that the term 'putra' is not racist and raises no psychological obstacles. He considers that the terms 'asli' [original]

and 'tidak asli' [not original], used in KEPPRES [Presidential Decision] 28, "still have racial connotations." Probo said, "With this new name HIPPI accepts members who are naturalized Indonesian citizens."

However, before being accepted as members, those of foreign descent must undergo a selection procedure. One of the conditions, contained in the new HIPPI AD/ART [Laws and Bylaws], is that they "prove themselves to be supporters of PANCASILA and to have a national consciousness."

A number of people have passed the selection procedures. There are two people of foreign descent on the new HIPPI DPP [Central Executive Board]: Agus Nur Salim (alias Liem Cu Kun), a member of the development board and fellow businessman of Probosutedjo in Kejawung, Inc. and deputy treasurer Nurdin Latif (alias Li Hong Wi).

The change of HIPPI's name was welcomed joyously. Alamsyah, coordinating minister for public welfare, representing the vice president at the opening ceremony, praised the change. He then asked all parties, especially Indonesian citizens of foreign descent, to accept his offer to join HIPPI, "so that HIPPI is not clapping with only one hand," he said.

Some people are worried that if the Chinese join they will dominate HIPPI. Probosutedjo rejected that possibility. "I have a way," he said without further explanation. Even though the name has changed, HIPPI's aims are still to develop those small entrepreneurs who are weak. Ariono Abdulkadir, who was elected chairman of HIPPI at this meeting, said that there are now 75,000 registered members, 90 percent of them small businessmen. Only 2 percent are big businessmen, including Hasyim Ning, T. D. Pardede, Syarnubi Said, Tjokropranolo and Probosutedjo.

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MURANDI EMPHASIZES 'NATIONAL VIGILANCE'

BK050110 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] General Murdani, the armed forces commander and concurrently security and order restoration commander, has stressed that to face the nation's future, the younger generation of Indonesia must be vigilant against the sources of threat, either internal or external, faced by the Indonesian nation. Vigilance as a national mental attitude is born out of an awareness that communism is a latent danger to the nation. However, national vigilance has a wider significance because the threat against the Pancasila state ideology does not come from communist ideology alone.

The armed forces commander made these remarks in Jakarta this morning while addressing the Central Executive Council of the Catholic Youth on the role of the younger generation in facing the challenges of the future. According to General Murdani, national vigilance constitutes a component of the Indonesian nation's efforts to comprehend and practice Pancasila and to realize national resilience.

CSO: 4213/44

JAKARTA DAILIES COMMENT ON RECENT EXPLOSION

BK060716 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 5 Nov 84

[From the press review]

[Text] SUARA KARYA says any incident that affects the interests of the people will always draw their attention. However, their desire to know about the matter will be limited or resistible while they have no knowledge of the actual truth. According to this daily, so as not to arouse suspicion, it is wise for the source of information--in fulfilling the desire to know--to function according to its purpose. Experience shows that the flow of information and its exposure of various incidents will help tremendously in putting things in their proper perspective.

SINAR HARAPAN says the restoration of Cilandak Marine Corps complex and areas affected by the bomb explosion is a challenge we have to face in practicing Pancasila concepts in a concrete manner. The government has extended assistance in the restoration of Cilandak. The assistance, coming from the governor of Jakarta among others, will rebuild destroyed houses. The West Java governor is also offering his aid, while the Indonesian Armed Forces will launch a civic operation to repair damage in the affected areas. According to SINAR HARAPAN, the serious attention given by the government and social organizations in the restoration of Cilandak and the areas around it should be coordinated in an orderly manner to attain speedy completion.

ANGKATAN BERSENJATA in its editorial notes that not less than 1,000 Indonesian Armed Forces personnel in Jakarta will be mobilised soon to rebuild the houses destroyed by the explosion of the ammunition depot in Cilandak Marine Corps complex. This is a good example which should be followed by social organizations, youth organizations, and others involved in social movements. This daily is confident that the involvement of the Indonesian Armed Forces in the restoration work is not viewed from the perspective of the cause of the blast but rather from the consequence of the disaster because the armed forces are always duty bound to lighten the people's burdens. The armed forces also consider their origins among the people they serve.

CSO: 4213/44

DEMOCRATIC PARTY DISCUSSES INTERNAL PROBLEMS

BK041133 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 24 Oct 84 pp 1

[Text] The Central Executive Council of the Indonesian Democratic Party [PDI] and the Parliamentary Democratic Faction [FDI] today [23 October] discussed various problems within the PDI.

The general chairman of the PDI Central Executive Council, Sunawar Sukowati, presided over the meeting in his house at a residential compound for senior government officials on Gatot Subroto Street.

After presiding over the relatively tense 4-hour meeting, Sunawar told MERDEKA that the meeting had provided the FDI with directives and guidance in facing discussions on five draft bills on political development between a parliamentary special committee and the government and other problems that emerged within the PDI recently.

The secretary general of the PDI Executive Council, Sabam Sirait, who was accompanying Sunawar, said that besides providing the FDI with directives, the Central Executive Council also gave guidance on the need to consolidate the organization immediately to prevent the PDI from being easily misled by rumors trying to divide it under various pretexts to discredit some party members.

In his first directives, Sabam Sirait asked the FDI members not to be misled by efforts to "make" a number of the PDI Central Executive Council figures "scapegoats," and "blame" them.

Furthermore, Sabam denied rumors that the PDI Central Executive Council had resorted to coercion on PDI regional executive councils and branches for certain purposes. According to Sabam, such rumors are efforts of some elements (?calling themselves) PDI figures. Instead, they are a group of people opposed to Pancasila and national unity.

CS0: 4213/44

BRIEFS

NEW ENVOYS INSTALLED--President Suharto installed three new Indonesian ambassadors at the State Palace on 27 October. They are Chalid Mawardi for Syria and Lebanon, Zainul Yasni for Jordan, and John Muzhar for Norway and Iceland. Earlier, President Suharto received the credentials of three foreign ambassadors to Indonesia--Mohamed Kessouri from Algeria, Anders Brandstrup from Denmark, and Valeriu Goergescu from Romania. [Summary] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 28 Oct 84 pp 1, 8 BK]

AUSTRIAN AID THROUGH IGGI--Speaking to newsmen before leaving for Delhi on 2 November, Austrian Deputy Prime Minister and concurrently Trade Minister Steger Norbert said his 3-day visit to Indonesia was aimed at exploring possibilities of allocating aid to various Indonesian projects through the Intergovernmental Group on Indonesia [IGGI]. Austrian aid to Indonesia includes a hydrocracker project in Dumai, a hydropower plant in West Java, and a rayon factory in Kerawang. Norbert Steger believes that as a proponent of the Nonaligned Movement, Indonesia has shared Austria's views on international and regional issues. Earlier, during his meeting with Finance Minister Radius Prawiro, he said that the Austrian Government is determined to change its observer status in the IGGI into that of a full member. As a full member, Austria is expected to give direct aid to Indonesian development programs. Austria's desire to become a full member of IGGI will hopefully be realized early 1985. [Summary] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 2 Nov 84 BK]

PREPARATION OF TRANSMIGRATION LOCATION--The head of the transmigration land allocation office in Sorong, Irian Jaya, (Thomas Tengklaleban), disclosed in Jayapura on 31 October that some 12,440 hectares of land are being prepared to resettle 2,160 transmigrant families during the 1984-85 fiscal year. During the 1983-84 fiscal year, 586 transmigrant families were resettled in the Sorong District of the targeted resettlement number of 1,150 families. [Summary] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 1 Nov 84 BK]

FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM PARTICIPATION--The chairman of the national family planning board, Haryono Suyono, has disclosed that family planning programs have thus far succeeded in convincing 14.3 million people or 58 percent of fertile couples to participate in the programs. He also said that additional efforts will be made to encourage more participation in the programs. [Summary] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 1 Nov 84 BK]

OFFICIAL ON EXTREMIST ACTIVITIES--A senior Indonesian official has warned that extremist groups in Indonesia, many (led by) intellectuals, are systematically carrying out subversive activities against the government. The secretary general of the Information Ministry, Mr Abdul Kadir, told a seminar that constant vigilance was needed to fight against extremist groups. He identified the extremists as opponents to the Indonesian constitution and the state ideology, communists, both left and rightwingers, and other groups. The warning by the Information Ministry official came after 2 days after devastating explosions in an ammunition depot in southern Jakarta killed at least 15 people. The government has refused to say if the blast was caused by accident or sabotage until an official investigation now being held is complete. It blamed the extremists for causing a riot in September in which [words indistinct] people were killed. It said the extremists were also responsible for three bomb explosions in Jakarta last month. [Text] [BK021400 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 2 Nov 84]

AUSTRALIAN MINISTER RETURNS HOME--Public Works Minister Suyono Sosrodarsono and State Minister for Public Housing Kosmas Batubara are invited to visit Australia as guests of the Australian Government. The invitation was made by the visiting Australian minister for housing and construction, Chris Hurford. The Australian minister left Jakarta on 2 November after leading a construction mission to Indonesia. [Excerpt] [Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 3 Nov 84 BK]

CSO: 4200/138

PRC, THAI ATTEMPTS TO SEIZE LAO TERRITORY DISCUSSED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 1 Sep 84 p 4

[Commentary] [Text] The Thai ultrarightist reactionaries in power used military forces to illegally and shamelessly attack and seize three of the Lao villages of Ban Mai, Ban Kang and Ban Savang that are under the jurisdiction of Paklay District, Sayaboury Province since 6 Jun 84. They also openly refused the rational, well-intentioned suggestions of the Lao party. They used many kinds of tricks such as trying to intrude upon the sovereignty of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and causing the border problems in order to avoid resolving the problems peacefully. They are aiming at legitimizing the invasion of the Lao villages. They are using the same old and outmoded tricks that the big-nation expansionists have used in hopes of swallowing Laos as well as the 3 countries in Indochina.

When recalling very recent history, everyone may understand as clearly as the Lao, Vietnamese, and Kampuchean brothers who have been extremely hurt by the aggression of the Chinese powerholders. In each historical era, the Chinese powerholders have used different tricks to seize Lao territory and all of Indochina. During the time the French colonists governed Laos and the other countries in Indochina, French officers signed an agreement in 1893 and 1897 with the Lassavong "King" to delimit the China-Lao border. In 1945, while the Lao people under the leadership of the Indochina Communist Party were revolting against the Japanese facists and the French colonialists in order to seize power in Vientiane, Thakhek, Savannakhet, Luang Prabang, Kuomitang military units came to attack Laos, taking advantage of the failure of the Japanese who were surrendering. Many thousands of the Chinese soldiers under the command of General (Lu Kosong) penetrated the Lao territory and took over Sing District, Luang Namtha Province and formed a new administration claiming: Houa Khong Province belongs to China. In 1954, China published something called "The True History of New China". This was propagandized and taught in schools using the map showing Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea and other Southeast Asian countries included in China.

Nevertheless, by practicing the tricks to swallow Laos each time, China has not received any results other than failure and blame from progressive people all over the world. At the beginning of 1979, the Chinese powerholders had a great failure using the Maoist regime in Kampuchea that destroyed the

lives of over 3 million Kampuchean people. They used 600,000 troops to attack 6 border provinces in the North of Vietnam. At the same time the Chinese reactionaries mobilized 100,000 troops to approach the border of Laos. But within only 20 days the army and the people of Vietnam were able to defeat and force the shameful Chinese aggressors out of the Lao-China border as well.

The lesson in following the old and outmoded tricks of the Chinese power holders in hoping to swallow Laos and other countries in Indochina until today, has been brought by the Beijing administration to train Athit Kamlangek, the representative of the Thai ultrarightists during his visit to China at the beginning of May this year. Not long after his return to Bangkok, Athit Kamlangek used this lesson by ordering Thai troops to attack, trample and seize 3 of the Lao villages such as Ban Mai, Ban Kang and Ban Savang on 6 Jun 84. After taking over the three Lao villages, they destroyed the signs marking the border markets and the Lao administration in those three villages, then formed a new administration under the Thai Government ordering the people to have Thai identity cards, to learn Thai, to speak Thai. They also committed all kinds of crimes which caused the loss of tremendous amounts of belongings and lives. Furthermore, they used negotiations with the Lao in order to create public support in their takeover of the three Lao villages. They used all kinds of tricks such as the so-called "Technical Territorial Inspection Committee". All of this is in their attempts to make violations of Lao Sovereignty into a border problem. Although the Lao-Thai borderline has already been clearly settled and there are laws, a treaty and many agreements affirming this to the nations in the world, including even the Thai people, who can't even deny it.

The Thai ultrarightists continue their dark acts to resist the Lao People's Democratic Republic is that they want to legitimize the invasion of the three Lao villages. It is the lowest trick that the Chinese power holders taught, to destroy the historical border demarcation then to swallow Laos little by little and finally the whole thing. This trick is the oldest and obsolete. It is the kind of trick that all the nations nearby and in the world can see so clearly and are fed up with. It is against the mentality of the new era today as well. This is because this era is the era of progress and independence. It is the era when all different nations are owners of their own destiny in fighting most ardently for peace, life and civilization of human beings, for the progress of the era in order to live peacefully. Therefore, if the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries still continue to blindly use such outmoded tricks mentioned previously, they will only be condemned by the world, put on the defensive and isolated day by day until they finish in failure very shamefully, just like in 1962 when they used the trick to claim Kampuchea's Khao Phravihan undoubtedly just like the Beijing reactionaries; the owner of those outmoded tricks, have experienced.

12753

CSO: 4206/5

CONTROVERSY ON HIGHER EDUCATION, STUDY ABROAD RESURFACES

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 21, 22, 24 Sep 84

["Conversation with the Editor" Column: "Why Can't A Good Student with Good Moral Conduct Study Abroad or Enter Medical School?"]

[21 Sep 84 p 2]

[Text] The editor of VIENTIANE MAI received a letter from a person who used the assumed name "one who is concerned." It was a fairly long letter that we can summarize as follows.

The writer complained about the issue of selecting students to study abroad or to study in medical school. The writer claimed that he experienced the problem himself and that it is neither fair nor is it carried out in accordance with the principle that "one who goes to study abroad or to study medicine must be a good student with good moral conduct and must also be selected to go... ."

Not only [is selection] not being carried out correctly based on the principle indicated, but the writer also said that there was corruption in certain places.

"One who is concerned" also expressed his concern for the fate of our nation when the damage from encouraging people this way could be greater than success.

At the end he confirmed his support and praised the party policies for being correct and just, and that it was because of bad people that the party policies are tainted.

[Answer] We admire "one who is concerned" for his bravery in bringing this problem up for discussion with us. VIENTIANE MAI has already answered this question many times, but if people are still interested in it we are happy to discuss it again.

[22 Sep 84 p 2]

First, we want you to look at the problem clearly. When you look at the problem you should be able to differentiate between what is wrong, that is,

what is caused by bad people and what is caused by the policies of the party. Do not mix up both problems, because if you do it will result in your doubting the party, and this would be a great mistake.

Second, when you look at this problem you should study other problems again comprehensively. For example, you said that in going to study abroad or to study medical science one must be a good student with good moral conduct, and what you said was right. But when you confirmed this, you forgot to look at other things. Based on our understanding there are no schools without vocational courses that have been built for bad or ill-willed people. Our country is steadily developing and strengthening in every way. People who will become the builders in every area must be good and competent; schools of all levels and for all subjects must be built, and the educational system must be improved. Once they have been built the good and poor students will be divided up here and there according to the government plan. It is not true that there are only immoral and stupid people [in other areas]. It has never been the case that teacher-training schools accept only irresponsible people to teach our nation's successors.

Third, in training people who will construct the nation the training plan must be divided up into equal parts in each work area and each locality throughout. Training will not be in Vientiane Capital only. It is impossible that the whole country is weak and that Vientiane is the only strong place, that only the medical science section is smart whereas the road and house construction section, the cultural section, etc. are weak. This is not the way to make a nation. For this reason, in the past 2 to 3 years our government has had plans to build up a complete set of forces for each work section and each province. Sometimes good students with good moral conduct qualify for study abroad or to study medical science in Vientiane Capital, but they cannot go to either of these because the national construction plan has already assigned them to other provinces or work sections. We think it is the right thing to do. People who fall into this category should [accept it] whether they want it or not because it is an objective demand. It is, however, not a plan that was written according to the desires of each individual.

[24 Sep 84 pp 2, 4]

Fourth, we cannot claim that by doing this everything will be beautiful and bright like magic. There will always be bad people who appropriate everything for themselves, embezzle public funds, and take bribes. Anyone who does this will be reeducated and transformed or punished by the people. This is a discouraging phenomenon left over from the old regime that has to be gradually eliminated. Solving this problem is everyone's duty. If "one who is concerned" knows about it you should record who, when, with whom, where, and how much. You should not merely listen to rumors, for in this way it will easily fall into the enemies' tricks.

Finally, we admire you for your concern about the destiny of our country. When one is concerned about the nation, he must be concerned about the progress of all work sections throughout society, the progress of all ethnic groups nationwide, every square km of Lao land from the mountaintops on down to the flat land, from rural to urban areas. He must be concerned about the revolution bringing change and improving the differences between urban and rural districts, and between different ethnic groups.

The editor of VIENTIANE MAI is interested in knowing why most of our friends' letters about educational problems often complain why they cannot study medicine or study abroad, even though there are still hundreds of thousands of socialist revolutionary jobs that need to be done.

Now the Thai reactionaries who are following the path of the Pan Thai-ism doctrine are trampling our Lao sovereignty. It would be best if we learn together about national defense, work well, and then try to punish them.

Thank you.

9884

CSO: 4206/11

BRIEFS

UN-AIDED RICE MILL--On the afternoon of 21 September 1984, in the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Cooperatives, an official ceremony was held to hand over a modern rice mill in Nong Teng between the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Cooperatives and Vientiane Capital. During this hand over ceremony Mr Bouathong Phounsalit, deputy minister of agriculture, irrigation and cooperatives, represented the ministry in signing the memorandum and made a speech to hand over responsibility for the modern rice mill in Nong Teng to Vientiane Capital. On this occasion Dr Siho Bannavong, assistant chairman of the administrative committee in Vientiane Capital, represented the administrative committee of Vientiane Capital in signing the memorandum and made a speech to accept the rice mill in front of the section committee concerned from the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Cooperatives, the Vientiane Capital Food Corporation Committee, and a number of other cadres. As we all know, the modern rice mill at Nong Teng that is being handed over to Vientiane Capital by the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Cooperatives under the direct and complete control of the Vientiane Food Corporation was first begun on 4 June aided by the UN, and was completed in 1984 [as published]. Besides a rice mill it also has a drying barn and five silos. It includes a rice-drying system, a machine for cleaning rice to get it ready for the mill, etc. Of these five units, three are able to take 200 tons of rice each and the other two units can take 500 tons each. They are electronically controlled. The rice mill alone can mill paddy rice into nonglutinous rice at the rate of 3 tons per hour. The silos and the rice-drying barn were completed in early 1984. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 22 Sep 84 pp 1, 4] 9884

CHAMPASSAK COOP EXPANSION--The Government authority of Khong District, Champassak Province, has made incessant efforts to develop and expand agricultural cooperatives from the beginning of January to mid-August 1984. Presently, the district has been able to increase the agricultural cooperatives by 50 units for a total of 125. There are 111 cooperatives [where property] has been transferred with 9,562 families and 33,369 cooperative members. They have 13,680 hectares of land for production, 55 strong agricultural cooperatives, and 58 and 120 units have been established as collectives. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 1 Sep 84 p 1] 12753

TRADE MISSIONS TO IRAN, CHINA, U.S. PLANNED

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 15 Oct 84 p 1

[Article by Adlin M. Zabri]

[Text]

THE Ministry of Trade and Industry is organising a series of trade missions overseas — to Iran, China and United States — during the last quarter of the year. Deputy Trade and Industry Minister Haji Muhyiddin Haji Mohd Yassin said. The first left yesterday for a six-day visit to Iran.

Haji Muhyiddin, who is also the leader of the delegation, told *Business Times* the mission represented a big step forward in efforts to forge closer bilateral economic relations between Malaysia and Iran.

This will be the first official government trade delegation to Iran since the Gulf war began.

It is understood that the mission to China, leaving at the end of the month, will be led by Haji Muhyiddin's coun-

terpart at the ministry, Mr Oo Gin Sun.

The mission to the United States will be led by Haji Muhyiddin and is scheduled to leave in mid-November.

Haji Muhyiddin said public sector officials would be having a series of discussions with their Iranian counterparts on some outstanding economic problems between the two countries.

A meeting with the chief executive of Iran's sole importing authority, the Procurement Development Centre, has been arranged.

This was expected to augur well for government agencies such as Petronas and PERNAS as well as private sector representatives.

Haji Muhyiddin said the government was anxious to persuade the Iranian government to import directly from

Malaysia. At the moment, a large portion of Iran's imports from Malaysia was handled by third countries.

He said the government was seeking to persuade the Iranian government to accept palm oil as an alternative edible oil to sunflower oil and soyabean oil.

Furthermore, existing palm oil prices were very competitive and this should be good persuasion power for Malaysia.

It is understood that during the reign of the late Shah of Iran, the government, a close ally of United States at that time, had decided that palm oil was not good for human consumption. This has not been change until now.

Trade between the two countries in the last five years fluctuated widely

because of the Gulf war, and was confined to government agencies since the private sector was unsure of the market situation.

Haji Muhyiddin pointed out that in 1979 Malaysia exported goods worth \$18.9 million to Iran and imported \$30 million worth of goods from that country. The following year exports rose to \$49 million while imports dropped drastically to only \$330,000.

The subsequent year saw exports dropping to \$37.3 million while imports rose to an all time high of \$233.73 million.

Last year, Malaysia exported goods worth \$140.8 million and imported \$222.45 million worth of goods, mainly crude oil, from Iran. Malaysia's export were largely rubber products, kerosene and textiles.

LOOK-EAST POLICY TO CONTINUE DESPITE CRITICS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Oct 84 p 1

[Text] TOKYO, Mon.--Malaysia has no intention of abandoning its "Look East" policy despite the strong criticism made by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad against Japan and the way the relationship is developing.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said: "We will continue with the policy as it is beneficial."

He said this in an interview with Bernama following unofficial talks with Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone at his official residence this afternoon.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said he had discussed the relationship between the two countries with Mr Nakasone who had pledged to do everything possible to correct the imbalances in the relationship.

The meeting is their first following Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir's strong criticism against Japan when opening the Malaysia-Japan colloquium in Kuala Lumpur in August.

Japanese circles have expressed concern following the criticism, especially Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir's description of the relationship as conforming to the "classic pattern of economic colonialism."

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said Mr Nakasone was also concerned about the relationship and "I explained to him not to place too much significance on the speech."

"It was made in an academic environment and you say what you have to say.

"There was a difference of perspective between Malaysia and Japan which had to be corrected and I was making sure that the parties are aware of this.

CSO: 4200/141

MUSA WARNS ON MISLEADING PAS PUBLIC POSITION

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Oct 84 p 1

[Text] ACTING Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam today advised non-Muslim political parties to go to the ground and listen to Pas leaders addressing their followers to determine for themselves the truth behind the party's actual policies and struggle.

This, he said, was important to prevent them from being hoodwinked should they decide to hold dialogues with Pas.

"Listen carefully to what they say at these ceramahs. Their speeches are filled with nuances. They are good with words and twist everything. It gives us (Umno) goos-pimples hearing to them, what more the non-Muslims," he said.

Datuk Musa, who is also the Home Affairs Minister, said he had to issue this advice because in discussions with Pas, some non-Muslims groups might find that Pas sounds reasonable, logical and that their views are acceptable.

"Sometimes, at international conferences and in interviews with foreign magazines, the views given by Pas leaders may also sound reasonable to the non-Muslims.

"The truth of their policies and struggle can only be discovered when they address their own people at ceramahs," he said.

Speaking to reporters after opening an international conference on cocoa and coconuts, Datuk Musa said while political parties, including Barisan Nasional component parties, were free to hold dialogues and discussions or conduct any political activities with whoever they chose, they should attend Pas political ceramahs to seek the truth.

"If they can't attend these ceramahs, they should at least listen to tapes of their speeches and understand in-depth the meaning of their words."

Datuk Musa stressed that it was important for them to comprehend the meaning of the speeches made, as Pas leaders try to confuse listeners, especially those who did not fully understand Bahasa Malaysia.

"They use phrases and contentions including Arabic verses which they twist and distort," he said.

Datuk Musa said it was unfair to expect only Umno to fight Pas activities as the question of religious extremism affects every community.

All parties, he said, must pool their resources in the war against religious and communal extremism.

Pas vice-president Haji Nakhai Ahmad yesterday said that Pas was seeking to hold dialogues with the MCA and other interested non-Muslim political parties on culture and Islamic matters to dispel misconceptions that Pas was an "extremist" party.

He said the dialogues were aimed at giving non-Muslims the correct picture of Islam and the concept of culture from an Islamic viewpoint.

Datuk Musa stressed his advice was directed to non-Muslims alone because for them to fully understand Pas speakers, they must not only understand Bahasa Malaysia but also the nuances.

Asked why Umno was holding the debate with Pas in view of these nuances, Datuk Musa said Umno knew how to deal with the problem.

"They cannot fool around with us. We are knowledgeable in the sense that we have practical application of Islam within the context of a multi-racial society," he said.

CSO: 4200/141

BELOW-TARGET GROWTH RATE EXPECTED

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 16 Oct 84 p 1

[Text]

THE nation's economy is expected to grow at between five and six per cent at the end of the New Economic Policy period while the government had set the target at between seven and eight per cent, Acting Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam said.

He said that though the expected growth rate would be slightly lower than the target, it would still be the envy of developed countries.

Speaking at a dinner in Kota Baru organised by the Malay Chamber of Commerce and Industry, he added that the nation's economy was expected to grow by 6.5 per cent this year and 6.7 per cent next year.

He said that though this was lower than the original projected estimates of between 7.5

and 7.8 per cent, it would still be higher than that of developed countries such as the United States, Japan, France and West Germany whose growth was projected to be between three and four per cent next year.

For the people of this country who had tasted high economic growth of between seven and eight per cent under the First and Second Malaysia Plans, the slightly lower growth rates later might not satisfy them, he added.

However, they should accept the reality that the world economy, which had not been growing rapidly, had influenced the country's economic growth.

On whether the NEP would be extended beyond its target date, he said he still had no

answer to the question.

He urged the chamber to organise a seminar to discuss the attainment of the objectives of the NEP by 1990 and the era after that.

Datuk Musa said the slow economic growth had caused competition among entrepreneurs to be even more keen, particularly among construction contractors in securing government tenders.

He added that the government was changing its strategy to ensure that big contracts were not all taken up by foreign companies and would strive to get foreign companies to join up with Bumiputera companies in big projects.

Datuk Musa also called on Bumiputera entrepreneurs to diversify their business and

venture into fields in which they were still left behind such as fisheries and agriculture and in the manufacturing and processing sectors.

At present there were too many Bumiputera entrepreneurs in the construction industry, making competition among them very keen, he added.

He urged Bumiputera entrepreneurs not to depend on the government any longer and said they must seek out their own opportunities.

Datuk Musa was proud to note that there were Bumiputera businessmen who had succeeded without depending on the patronage of the government but rather through their own initiative. — Bernama

OIL TO RUN OUT BY 2002

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Oct 84 p 6

[Text] MALAYSIA'S oil resources are expected to run out in 18 years based on the current production rate of 450,000 barrels per day and if no new resources are located in future.

The Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Datuk Khalil Yaakub, told the Dewan Rakyat that exploration efforts would nevertheless, be continued to locate new oil sources.

He said this in reply to a supplementary question by Wan Ibrahim Wan Abdullah (Hamim-Pasir Mas) who wanted to know if Malaysia would cease to be an oil exporter in the forthcoming decade.

Datuk Khalil said the question of whether Malaysia would continue to export oil in future depended on whether there were surplus supplies after local consumption was accounted for.

To the original question by Haji Zain Abdullah (Hamim-Bachok), he said Malaysia had for the moment not decided on the question of joining Opec.

Haji Zain had wanted to know if Malaysia had any intention of joining Opec as the latter played an important role in determining the price of oil.

CSO: 4200/141

COMMANDER OUTLINES AIR FORCE FUTURE

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 10 Oct 84 p 3

[Text] BUTTERWORTH, Tues.--The Royal Malaysian Air Force is taking on a new role--from being merely a supportive force to a combat-ready air force.

Acting Air Force Chief Major-General Datuk Mohamed Ngah Said said today the RMAF was changing its image and its goal is to become the best air force in the Asean region.

During a visit to the RMAF base here, Jen. Datuk Mohamed said by the end of 1985 the RMAF will have three fighter squadrons.

Besides the F5 squadron, two A4-L Skyhawk squadrons will be formed.

He said previously the RMAF only performed the secondary role of ferry troops, supplying equipment and food.

Jen. Datuk Mohamed said the RMAF had already set up teams to work in cooperation with the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) to gradually take over base functions.

For instance, air traffic control search and rescue operations, bulk fuel installation, armament storage and domestic fire fighting services have already been taken over by the RMAF.

He said other base functions will be taken over in stages.

CSO: 4200/141

BUTTERWORTH TO BE MAIN AIRBASE

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 10 Oct 84 p 3

[Article by A. Kathirasan]

[Text] BUTTERWORTH, Tues.--The Butterworth air base will be the Royal Malaysian Air Force's No. 1 fighter base when the Australians leave some time in 1986, RMAF acting chief Major-General Datuk Mohamed bin Ngah said today.

The Royal Australian Air Force's remaining Mirage jet fighter squadron will have pulled out by then.

Strategy

However, the RAAF would continue to maintain a presence here on an attachment basis, Datuk Mohamed said.

He was speaking to newsmen during a visit to the airbase where he was briefed on its activities. He later held a dialogue with his officers.

"Now the main emphasis is gearing ourselves to be combat ready while continuing to provide logistics support to other branches of the defense forces," he said.

Datuk Mohamed, who is expected to be confirmed soon as air force chief, said that since it was impossible to cover the total Malaysian air space, a defence system based on selected areas would be utilised.

"However, we hope to have a comprehensive defence system against any form of air threat in about 10 years.

"The RMAF is working on a strategy to re-orientate the attitude of its personnel so that they will become more self-reliant."

In the past, the RMAF did not tackle problems very deeply and often depended on the help of overseas agencies.

For instance, previously the RMAF replaced defective aircraft and equipment parts with serviceable parts and then sent the defective parts overseas for repairs.

Now the RMAF is doing its own repair of the defective parts.

Datuk Mohamed said the old philosophy of one man learning one trade would be changed to one man learning many trades.

Repairs

By encouraging the RMAF personnel to be proficient in more than one trade will help reduce manpower and costs. Also it will offer more job opportunities for the men when they leave the force.

Datuk Mohamed also said the Aircraft Overhaul Depot (Airod) in Kuala Lumpur will be privatised soon.

He said RMAF technicians and administrative personnel are expected to be either seconded or released to join the private company which will manage Airod.

CSO: 4200/141

DEFENSE OFFICIAL: FIGHTER PURCHASE NO THREAT TO SRV

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 15 Oct 84 p 24

[Article by Tan Boon Kean]

[Text]

THE purchase of advanced fighter aircraft by some Asean countries will not trigger an arms race with Vietnam, Deputy Defence Minister Abang Abu Bakar Mustapha said in an exclusive interview recently with *Business Times*.

"The Vietnamese in the past had faced the most advanced aircraft of the United States, including B-52 bombers, without resorting to an arms race in the air. Improvements of fighter aircraft in the region will be puny compared to what they had faced. So why should they start an arms race?" he asked.

Encik Abang Abu Bakar said the major defence policy issues in the later part of the 1980s would be the conflicting claims of territory in the South China Sea and the Kampuchean conflict which would remain for some time.

"These two are bound to demand the attention of defence and it is difficult to speculate that internal security issues will take a secondary position. It is dangerous to belittle insurgency or to entertain the thought that insurgency is over in this country," he said.

Regarding the protection of Malaysia's declared exclusive economic zones (EEZs), Encik Abang Abu Bakar said the country's sovereign rights over its territorial waters did not extend into the EEZs.

"The rights of sovereignty given in the EEZs is restricted to the conserving, managing and exploiting of natural resources and therefore, the extent of protection Malaysia would undertake is limited to protecting these resources and environment within the EEZs," he said.

He noted oil rigs in the EEZs had a 500-metre safety zone which aircraft were not allowed to enter.

The Exclusive Economic Zone Bill tabled in Parliament would establish the country's jurisdiction over marine scientific research activities within the zone.

"We shall monitor movements in our EEZ through regular reconnaissances of which we already have the capability," he added.

Provisions in the Bill would allow authorised officers to stop and board any vessel if they suspect a polluting offence had been committed.

On the Soviet buildup, the Deputy Minister said: "Of course we are concerned with the increase in Soviet movements, especially of naval ships in the region through the Straits of Malacca. We are monitoring their activities in the region.

"But the important issue is we hope the Kampuchean problem can be solved by political means as soon as possible. I think once the issue is resolved then at least the pressure is taken off the region and we can then get on with our economic development.

"In fact, Vietnam, I think, wants to develop itself, because it has been devastated by the war against the French and then the Americans. So I presume they would be interested to pick up the pieces and give the Vietnamese people a better life.

"We in Malaysia are concerned and we don't want this area to be a battleground for superpowers, by proxy or otherwise."

Encik Abang Abu Bakar denied that the government had any immediate plans to purchase the F-16 Falcon (which is currently being considered by Singapore and

Thailand), or any other advanced fighter aircraft.

"It is the air force's business to know what new aircraft are being produced and flown by various countries. As such a paper evaluation of performance and other characteristics of new aircraft is continuously being carried out, but it is not done with a view to purchasing such aircraft," he said.

On Australia's defence presence in Malaysia after 1988, he said he was not sure there would be a vacuum after that year. He believed the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) advanced F-18 Hornet fighters would continue to be deployed at Butterworth and to participate in Five Power Defence Arrangement (FPDA) air exercises.

"By then we would also have forty A-4 Skyhawks operational," he added.

Encik Abang Abu Bakar said a decision on a new infantry assault rifle to replace the M-16 should be made before the end of this year. It was too early to say if the selected infantry weapon would be produced locally under joint-venture.

NEW CALEDONIA

BRIEFS

KANAKS WARNED ON DISRUPTING ELECTION--New Caledonia's Kanak population has been urged to ensure that elections on (18 November) are not disrupted. The call was made by the president of the Union Caledonian Party, Mr Roch Pidjot, during the closing session of the party's 3-day annual conference. The elections are planned by France to bring in a 5-year self-government period with a referendum on independence in 1989. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1100 GMT 5 Nov 84]

CSO: 4200/139

RECOVERY CONTINUES, BUT INVESTMENT WEAK

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 28 Sep 84 p 12

[Text]

PORT MORESBY: The modest pick-up in Papua New Guinea's economy in 1983 continued in the first half of this year but business investment remained weak, the central bank said yesterday.

The Governor of the Bank of Papua New Guinea, Sir Henry To Robert, commenting on the release of the central bank's 1983 annual report, said exports were higher, the balance of payments improved and private employment rose.

Higher export prices for agricultural products stimulated economic activity in most regions, more than offsetting depressing prices for mineral exports, he said.

The export prices, combined with a roughly unchanged level of imports, had been largely responsible for the strong balance of payments position in 1984.

International reserves were at \$530 million at the end of June compared with \$534 million at the end of 1983. By early September this year reserves had risen to \$285 million.

Consumption spending strengthened in the first six months of the year with retail sales and motor vehicle registrations well above the levels for the same period in 1983.

The central bank's own index of employment in the formal private sector continued an upward trend.

But business investment fell further this year, largely reflecting a decline in expenditure at Ok Tedi as the gold mine started production.

"Spending in other sectors remained sluggish despite indications of some improvement in business confidence," Sir Henry said.

"Until we see some pick-up in private investment the recovery will remain narrowly based and, as such, even more vulnerable to developments abroad."

The continuing strength of the balance of payments had allowed the central bank to maintain an easier monetary stance in 1984 to help economic recovery.

Sir Henry said the recent rise in the commercial banks' required minimum ratio of liquid assets to specified liabilities should not be taken as a change in monetary policy.

The rise by four points to 18 per cent was a precautionary

measure designed to reduce the substantial margin by which liquid assets exceeded the required amount.

"Indeed, monetary conditions have changed little in the first eight months of the year and commercial banks continue to have ample funds to lend," Sir Henry said.

The report said the Government had made further progress at limiting its expenditure to a level consistent with reduced revenue prospects over the medium to long term.

The budget was framed so as to continue this trend although the fiscal stance adopted is a little easier than that of the previous two years.

"Over the next several years the relative size of the government sector is projected to continue falling."

"New overseas commercial borrowing, which had risen sharply in the early 1980s, is projected to fall to zero," the report said.

One "unfortunate" aspect of the Government's budgetary performance had been recurring shortfalls on spending on development projects.

The Government had acknowledged the weakness and intended to improve matters.

Australian Associated Press

CSO: 4200/143

GENERAL LEE FOREWARNS POTENTIAL AGGRESSORS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 17 Oct 84 p 13

[Article by Zulkafly Baharuddin]

[Text] SINGAPORE, Tues.--Brigadier-General (Reservist) Lee Hsien Loong has said Singapore needs a defence policy which would tell a potential aggressor: "If you come, I'll whack you and I'll survive."

He said this policy--to make an attacker pay a high price for trying to subdue Singapore with no guarantee of success--had been the Singapore Armed Forces' (SAF) strategy for "quite some time."

Not Numbers

"It is a deterrent strategy but a credible one. We have not had war, so that strategy has not failed," he said in an interview with Asean Forecast, a monthly newsletter on regional affairs published in Singapore.

In the interview--given in late September, about the time he announced his resignation as second-in-command of the SAF, and published in the newsletter's latest issue--Brig-Gen Lee said Singapore was spending S\$2 billion a year to develop a capability to survive in war.

He said acquisition of sophisticated weapons and military technology was part of the republic's strategy for developing a credible deterrent.

Singapore, with a population of only 2.4 million, could not afford to lose men in battle the way Vietnam, with a population of 54 million had--by the millions, he said.

"Every soldier to us is precious, and rightfully so. We cannot depend on numbers. We must depend on sophistication of fighting power," Brig-Gen Lee said.

"It is not just a matter of more firepower, but of being able to apply what we have precisely, at the point where we need it, of being able to think fast and react fast on the battlefield. We have no other choice."

He said for the SAF, people were important. "It is not a matter of buying equipment and having the hardware to fight a war on our behalf. People have to operate the equipment," he said. He did not think that in going in for high technology, Singapore risked repeating an American mistake, he added.

"The Americans lost in Vietnam for many reasons, not necessarily because a people's war is a superior strategy compared to technological war," Brig-Gen Lee said.

"For one thing, their determination and staying power was hardly equal to that of the North Vietnamese," he said.

United Nation

Asked how a strategy built on technology could cope with an internal threat. Brig-Gen Lee said the SAF assumed that they would fight "with a united nation behind us."

Here, the other elements of total defence--social, psychological, economic and civil--come into play, he said.

"I agree that if somebody wants to threaten us, he will start by undermining us from within. Other means will have to be found to cope with that. That problem is not susceptible to military solutions," he said.

On Singapore's annual defence expenditure, Brig-Gen Lee said the S\$2 billion annual expenditure represented about six per cent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP).

"This is a high average. It is nothing like what the Koreans or Israelis spend, but better than the Europeans, and slightly less than the Americans.

"We will probably continue to spend six per cent of the GDP on defence and as long as the economy grows; we will be able to afford more hardware and more sophisticated hardware, but there is still a limit.

"It is not a treasure trove which just builds up, because military hardware wears out and gets obsolete. It may last 10 or 15 years, but then it must be replaced. We have to live within our means," he said.

CSO: 4200/142

ARMY WEAKNESSES, EXPANSION PLANS NOTED

Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 8 Sep 84 p 4

[News Desk Commentary column by Manachai: "Development of the Army From the Actual Situation"]

[Text] At a ceremony held at the New Imperial Hotel on 6 September to mark the close of the seminar for R.O.T.C. leaders, General Athit Kamlangek, the supreme commander and RTA CINC, said that Thailand has a population of approximately 50 million people and that it is big enough to require an army of 20 combat divisions and a similar number of support divisions. But because of the country's economic situation, other ways must be found to increase [the army's] combat strength.

The supreme commander said that at present, students are actively being given training in military science. This will help expand the reserve forces. If there are enough weapons, a total of 40 divisions can be formed whenever necessary.

At present, the army has a total of 17 divisions, composed of 7 infantry divisions, 2 artillery divisions, 2 cavalry divisions, 2 special combat divisions and 4 reserve divisions.

As for Gen Athit Kamlangek, ever since he became the "coup suppression" leader during the period 1-4 April 1981 (he was the commanding general of the First Army Area and the assistant RTA CINC), his ideas and actions have mostly stressed forming units and forces to maintain internal order. One of his prominent achievements, which led people to refer to him as an important "power source," was the formation of the Bangkok Peacekeeping Force-Unit 123.

Ever since Gen Athit became RTA CINC in October 1982, he has tried to expand and develop the combat forces by forming reserve divisions, increasing the capabilities of the thahan phran irregulars and forming an artillery division. He has tried to exert pressure to have military science [taught] in other circles besides the military. Except in his capacity as supreme commander, he has not played an open or prominent role in stipulating national defense strategies. Gen Athit has tried to modernize the weapons.

For example, he is trying to purchase F-16 A100 aircraft for the Thai air force. But there are reports that he may not succeed in this.

Gen Athit's idea is to gradually increase the number of combat divisions to 20 divisions, or to a total of 40 divisions when the reserve forces are included. This is a far-sighted idea that shows great concern for the country "in abnormal times."

However, amidst this development and expansion of the combat forces, the actual situation today should not be forgotten. That is, [people] must consider whether this is the right time to take such action.

Important problems today in expanding the combat forces and upgrading our weapons are money and manpower and development priorities. In particular, this latter point is a policy matter that must be made quite clear and to which great importance must be attached. Besides this, we must improve and develop our existing resources. That is, we must develop as much as possible using the things that we already have.

Concerning the 17 divisions now subordinate to the army, if matters are checked carefully, one fact that cannot be denied is that not one of these divisions has the "capabilities" originally stipulated. The reasons for this are different for each division. But one problem that is easy to see is that some of these units lack men and weapons. Examples are the artillery divisions. Thus, it will take time and much more development for these divisions to become perfect divisions.

Thoughts of forming new divisions at this time are not in accord with the real situation. Since we cannot perfect the existing divisions at this time, we should not be in a rush to form new units, which would just be an unnecessary waste of time and money.

And something that military leaders should not forget is that the people's support for the military depends in part on whether the military has carried out its duties in accord with the laws and whether it has carried out its tasks resolutely. The words "professional soldiers" and "political soldiers" point to a difference that will determine how much support the civilian population will be willing to provide.

This may not be too clear. Others must help clarify things, too.

11943
CSO: 4207/17

THAILAND

COLUMNIST VIEWS SRV IN LAOS, THREATENS USE OF LAO EXILES

Bangkok CHAT ATHIPATAI in Thai 9 Sep 84 pp 39-42

[Article by "Free Man": "Thailand and Laos, Be Careful of an Indochina War"]

[Excerpts] The situation in southeast Asia has become more tense since Lao forces began firing artillery and mortar rounds at Thai military positions in the Thai-Lao border area in Uttaradit Province where the three villages [under contention] are located. One Thai soldier has been killed and several others have been wounded.

This occurred after the Lao delegates who had come to Bangkok to discuss the border problem with the Thai government had returned to Vientiane, the capital of Laos, and Thailand had sent technical officials to survey the area under dispute.

As for the fact that Lao forces were able to fire at the Thai military positions so accurately, it seems that the Lao forces knew the exact location of the Thai military units. They may have received information from villagers living in the three villages under dispute. Some of the villagers may be agents of the Lao military units. Or they may be spies that Laos put in position before the Thai units launched operations.

Laos was a colony of Thailand in certain periods. And certain provinces in Laos were once part of Thailand. They were part of the Kingdom of Thailand in one period. Later on, Laos became a colony of France. In 1907 France compelled Thailand to sign a treaty recognizing the Lao border. Thailand had to do this because it could not defeat France militarily at that time.

When Prince Souvanna Phouma was prime minister and Savang Vatthana was the king of Laos before Laos fell to the communists, Thais could travel to Laos freely. Thai merchants regularly travelled to Laos to sell goods without having to have a passport or border pass. Thailand and Laos were fraternal countries. Many Thais went and became government officials in Laos. And there are still many left there today who are senior people in the country. For example, Mahasila is a member of the Lao Academy and Mr Singkhapo is a Lao general. Also, one of the sisters of

Mr Kaysone Phomvihane, the prime minister of Laos today, is married to a Thai. And so he has Thai relatives.

When the communists seized control of Laos in 1975 after the United States, which had supported the right-wing government in Vientiane, cut off all aid to Laos, tens of thousands of Lao people who opposed communism fled to Thailand.

If the border is fixed based on the nationality of the people living in the area, it can be claimed that Thailand has lost sovereignty over a large part of its territory. There are several villages in Laos where many Thais are living. And so these should belong to Thailand.

Laos attacked Thailand this time because of pressure from the Vietnamese military, which now occupies Laos. Because prior to this attack, Vietnamese military units had moved up forces to support the Lao forces, which confronted Thai forces in the border area under dispute. And the Vietnamese forces provided immediate support when the fighting broke out.

Vietnam took such an opportunity to invade Kampuchea, claiming that Kampuchea had attacked Vietnamese border villages. In the case of Laos, if fighting breaks out with Thailand, Vietnam can take this opportunity to send large numbers of troops into Laos to reinforce the 50,000 Vietnamese troops already in Laos. This will give Vietnam a chance to seize all of Laos instead of playing the role of advisor as at present.

The present president of Laos, Prince Souphanouvong, is married to a Vietnamese. And the father of Mr Kaysone Phomvihane, the prime minister, is Vietnamese. His mother is Lao.

The communists did not succeed in taking control of Laos because of the skill of the Lao communist military forces. Rather, this happened because of the support given by the Vietnamese military. At that time, China was still friends with Vietnam and sent troops to provide logistics support to Vietnam.

If Thailand wants to fight Laos, it doesn't have to send Thai troops to fight. It can use soldiers of the former Lao government who fled to Thailand under the leadership of General Phoumi Nosavan and Meo soldiers of General Vang Pao. This would cause great damage to the Lao communists.

Lao people once told me that just after the communists seized control of Laos in 1975, they nationalized the land and all activities. But what happened was that production declined because people felt that they had a monthly income and so they didn't work very hard. Thus, changes were implemented. The land was divided among the people and a set tax was collected. If farmers produced a lot, they could keep [the excess]. This made the farmers more enthusiastic about increasing yields. The same was true for other activities. The private sector can do a good job if the government leaves it alone and just collects taxes, except in the case of large state enterprises.

At present, the Lao government is allowing the people to contact relatives living abroad in order to bring in money from Lao people living abroad.

If Thailand closes the border with Laos, Laos will start to make greater use of the route to the sea that passes through Vietnam. And economically, it will have to rely more on Vietnam. Thus, it will lose its bargaining power with Vietnam and be completely under the control of Vietnam.

The Thai government has shown great patience and restraint in the face of the border provocations of the Lao troops. Actually, if the Thai army fired artillery rounds at Vientiane, which is located opposite Si Chiang Mai District in Thailand, it would cause great havoc. The armed dispute will not be easy to resolve. If the two sides fire at each other all along the Mekong River, the people who live in this area will not have any peace or happiness, and there will be a constant loss of life and property.

Actually, if a war should break out between Thailand and Laos, it would probably spread to all of Indochina. And Thailand would not fight alone; it would receive help from the United States and China. South Korea is ready to send troops to help Thailand in return for Thailand having sent troops to help it fight North Korea during the 1950-1952 [Korean] War.

Thailand has never feared going to war. We have fought at least two wars against the Vietnamese. The first time, we helped the Vietnamese emperor regain power in his country. The second time was during the Vietnam War. But if it is at all possible to avoid war, Thailand will do so. Thailand wants to be friends with all countries in order to maintain peace in the region and save people's lives.

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CSO: 4207/17

THAILAND

SOUTHERN MP CITES CRIME WAVE, POSSIBLE SOLUTION

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 8 Sep 84 p 5

[Article by Samphar Paenphat, an MP from Nakhon Sithammarat: "Bandit Suppression--Is This a Problem That Can't Be solved Or One That Hasn't Been Solved?"]

[Excerpts] The Police Department is presenting very good monthly statistics and showing the results of crime suppression, and senior people in police circles are trying to show that the crime rate is down in provinces that once had very high crime rates. But at the same time, many people are still making appeals through their MPs.

Actually, bandit suppression has always been a serious problem for the Police Department. And today, because the country's economy is poor, the number of bandits has increased.

What has been said above may conflict with the statistics released by the Police Department, which show that the crime rate has dropped. But the statistics include only reported crimes. Actually, the Police Department knows that if all crimes were reported, the statistics would soar alarmingly.

The magazine ECONOMICS AND SOCIETY reported that on the average, a theft occurs every hour, a case of bodily assault occurs every 6 hours, a robbery occurs every 9 hours, a car is stolen every 14 hours and a murder is committed every 16 hours. Altogether, the crime rate in Thailand is 35 cases per 100,000 people, which is very high when compared with that in neighboring countries.

This increase in the number of crimes may stem from the fact that people who belong to gangs don't like the police to get involved because the government system is so slow or because the government system can't handle matters. And so they prefer to handle matters themselves. They sometimes hire others to settle matters. Thus, a very frightening situation exists.

As for solving this problem, an important point that I would like to discuss has two aspects--the problems of the police and the problems of the people.

Police problems: Concerning the activities of the Police Department, it can be seen that the problems on this front can be divided into three groups:

First are the problems concerning vehicles and communications equipment. Viewed fairly, it must be admitted that the Police Department does not have enough vehicles or modern communications equipment. This is the reason why [police officials] become discouraged in carrying out their duties. To solve this, the government must quickly procure these things for the Police Department and provide money for fuel oil and engine oil, which are essential items.

However, occasionally, even though the government provides funds for such things, the center often takes advantage of the provincial areas by spending most of the budget on the center, with very little going to the provinces. This, too, creates problems in carrying out the work.

Second is the problem in providing training in conducting investigations. The Police Department provides such training constantly. But what is lacking is stress on making good use of the techniques learned. It can be seen that those who come to report [a crime] often experience problems. For example, they are asked questions that they can't answer, such as "can you identify the criminal" and "were there any witnesses?" If the person says that he can't [identify the person] or that there weren't [any witnesses], he is often told to wait to make a report until he does know. This shows a complete lack of responsibility. Thus, it must be stressed that the training provided officials will be worthless unless those given the training apply what they have learned. This is something that the Police Department must emphasize once people have completed the training.

The final point is that police officials who have been stationed in an area for too long will form a close relationship with various circles, and this will make it difficult for them to carry out their duties satisfactorily. This is a major problem. And the people don't dare interfere with police circles since they can never be sure which people support the police or which people are supported by the police, which can be very dangerous for people without supporters.

As for solving this problem, police officials who have been in an area for a long time should be transferred. This should include all the officials, from police private to chief inspector, at a police station. If this can be done, the police will achieve greater results in their work. Simply transferring one or two senior officers will not help improve the performance of those at lower echelons.

As for the problems concerning the people, these are just as important. It can be seen that at present, when a crime is committed and a weapon is used, it is usually a war weapon. This is because during the Vietnam War,

the terrorists and certain traitorous merchants smuggled in such weapons in cooperation with certain corrupt officials. War weapons can be purchased at a very low price and they are easy to obtain. It is very difficult to control these types of weapons.

Some people have recommended that the punishment for possession of such weapons be death. But making the punishment so severe is not the way to eliminate war weapons. Neighboring countries have succeeded in eliminating war weapons. Our government should study the methods that they have used to do this and use them in this country. But first of all, it must be recognized that this is a problem that can be solved. Our people are certainly just as smart as those in neighboring countries. Since they have succeeded, so can we.

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CSO: 4207/14

THAILAND

GEN HAN URGES 'BROADMINDED' APPROACH TO CPT LAWS

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 1 Sep 84 p 5

[Speech by Gen Han Linanon at Ramkhamhaeng University on 7 August 1984:
"The Role of the Military and the Development of 'Communist' Laws"]

[Excerpts] This article, "The Role of the Military and the Development of 'Communist' Laws," has been excerpted from a speech, entitled "The Military: Effect On the Development of Thai Law," that was delivered by Gen Han Linanon on the lawn in front of the Applied Science Research Institute, Ramkhamhaeng University, on Tuesday, 7 August 1984, which was "Raphi" Day. MATICHON has excerpted the parts dealing with the development of the Anti-Communist Activities Act and the role and ideas of the military.

Because the communists have a strong organization, because they maintain tight secrecy and because they have strong discipline, which is referred to as "iron discipline," past governments have been very apprehensive about the communists. Thus, they have fiercely opposed the communists. These governments did not feel that the existing laws were broad enough to arrest and punish people or groups engaged in communist activities. Thus, since 1933, several anti-communist activities acts have been promulgated.

The act currently in use is the Anti-Communist Activities Act of 1952, which has been revised several times in order to tighten things in punishing those involved in communist activities. Some of the revisions have not given any attention to legal principles or to human rights and freedoms in a democratic system.

Now, official views and policies on communist suppression have developed greatly. For example, instead of being referred to as communist suppression, it is referred to as the struggle to defeat the communists in accord with Prime Ministerial Order 66/1980.

Concerning this, it is now felt that the communist problem is an ideological problem that must be solved using political means. Thus, Policy 66/1980 wants communists, regardless of whether they are in the jungle or cities, to surrender and wage a peaceful struggle. But one blind spot is that we often think that those who have surrendered will stop carrying on activities, which is impossible.

Thus, national administrators must think about this. It is impossible to keep them from waging a struggle. But we want them to wage a peaceful struggle openly rather than an underground struggle. Even I am fighting for a perfect democracy. But this is an open struggle and does not pose a threat or danger to anyone.

Policy 66/1980 is a way of struggling to defeat the communists, and it has shown itself to be the correct path. Even communists in the jungle have accepted it. Thus, the communist laws should be developed.

1. It must be recognized that the communists are not hateful and terrifying people as represented in past propaganda. For example, communists were portrayed as evil ogres who burned temples. We don't have to fear the communists if domestic politics is secure, which means having a perfect democracy.

2. The officials responsible for upholding the communist laws must be broadminded. Because high-level officials have visited communist-bloc countries and talked with many communist leaders, who are referred to as party leaders or senior party members. And so if Thai citizens contact such people, why are they viewed as being communist sympathizers who want to destroy the country?

3. The Anti-Communist Act should be developed since the Thai People's Liberation Armed Forces no longer exist, and the small bandit groups that remain do not have the power to topple the government. The future struggle will be a political struggle. If the government's policies serve the interests of the majority of the people and protect their rights and freedoms, the government will certainly defeat the communists.

We could make psychological gains on the political front. Those sections of the criminal code on security, from Article 113 to Article 118, already empower officials to take action against those who engage in activities harmful to the country. Or they could be revised slightly. The name of the Anti-Communist Activities Act should be changed. For example, this could be called the Internal Security Law. It could be written in such a way to cover all types of terrorism that harm the stability of the government and democratic administration with the king at the head. This would include terrorism instigated from outside the country. But things must be based on the criminal laws and the decisions of the courts.

THAILAND

ATHIT ON EXPANSION OF TERRITORIAL DEFENSE CORPS

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 7 Sep 84 pp 1, 16

[Article: "Athit Makes Preparations to Increase Number of Troops and Allow Girls to Receive Military Training"]

[Text] Athit is taking steps to increase the size of the Thai army to 20 divisions after the military reshuffle. He has ordered that the efficiency of the R.O.T.C. students be increased and that they be formed into divisions. Female students are to be allowed to take paratroop training and to train with weapons.

On 6 September, Gen Athit Kamlangek, the supreme commander and RTA CINC, officiated at a ceremony at the New Imperial Hotel to mark the close of a seminar for R.O.T.C. leaders. On this occasion, Gen Athit said that Thailand has a population of approximately 50 million people and that is large enough to require an army of 20 combat divisions and a similar number of support divisions. But because of the country's economic situation, other ways must be found to increase [the army's] combat strength.

Gen Athit said that he has ordered the Territorial Defense Corps to improve the efficiency of the R.O.T.C. students. These reserve forces will be developed so that they can make parachute jumps. This includes both men and women. He said that at present, many students are taking military science courses. This is tantamount to expanding the armed reserves so that whenever necessary, a total of 40 divisions can be formed. The Volunteer Defense Corps members have been formed into battalions and so why can't the R.O.T.C. students be formed into divisions? However, this must be done gradually.

Gen Athit said that training students in military science will not only create a reserve force for use in times of need but that this will also help instill discipline in people. He said that he is making various other changes concerning the reserve forces since this is such an important matter. If these forces are established, we will be stronger, and the people will have greater discipline and act as one.

Lt Gen Charu Chatikanon, the chief of the Territorial Defense Corps, discussed the program to have R.O.T.C. students undergo paratroop training. He said that this will be for Grade 12 students. They will be made acting sublieutenants when they graduate. They will be given such training so that they can serve as reserve forces that can be moved by air.

Lt Gen Charu also talked about the military training program for female students. He said that training activities are expected to begin in 1985.

Lt Gen Charu said that the training for female students will provide them with a basic knowledge of military science. They will not be trained in a lackadaisical way but will be given ranks.

Furthermore, at present, the army has a total of 17 divisions, composed of 7 infantry divisions, 2 artillery divisions, 2 cavalry divisions, 2 special combat divisions and 4 reserve divisions.

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CSO: 4207/14

THAILAND

ARMY ESTABLISHES THIRD VOLUNTEER DEFENSE CORPS BATTALION

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 17 Sep 84 p 2

[Article: "Army Establishes Third VDC Battalion to Deal With Border Problems"]

[Text] The army has established a third Volunteer Defense Corps battalion in Prachinburi Province to handle border problems. Permission has also been given to establish a marine Volunteer Defense Corps.

In his capacity as the secretary-general of the Volunteer Defense Corps Center, Lieutenant General Mana Rattanakoset, the deputy chief of staff of the army, talked with reporters after officiating at a ceremony to conclude the training of Class 5 VDC members. The ceremony was held at the Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy on the afternoon of 16 September. He told the reporters that in 1985, the VDC Center plans to train another 100,000 VDC members. Approximately 2-3 months ago, the third VDC battalion was established in Prachinburi Province to help carry out national security tasks since the border there is quite long and the capital is not far away.

Lt Gen Mana said that the formation of three VDC battalions has been very beneficial. They have been of great help to the army and to the civilian administrators. For example, they have helped move people when there have been border clashes. And they have helped provide protection against bandits in the rear areas, which has allowed the army to fight without having to worry about the rear.

Concerning the formation of a marine VDC to help maintain security at sea, Lt Gen Mana said that this is being handled by the navy. The VDC Center has now given permission to go ahead with this. The navy has begun training people.

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CSO: 4207/14

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

RICE EMBEZZLERS, SPECULATORS SEVERELY PUNISHED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 10 Aug 84 p 4

[Text] The Ben Tre Provincial People's Court recently held a session in Ben Tre City to try in the first instance the case of Phan Tien Dao, Phan Van Thanh alias Tu Thoi and their accomplices on charge of embezzling river-transported grain, speculating, bribing cadres and resisting the authorities while they were performing their duties.

The incident took place on 13 and 14 January 1984. Phan Tien Dao, captain of hauling boat No 235, and Vu Van Tri, captain of hauling boat No 224, of the Mekong River Joint Transport Enterprise, were transporting 1,625 tons of paddy from the Tra Noc granary to Ho Chi Minh City. For trading purposes, they established secret connections with a group of illegal traders including Phan Van Thanh and Le Thi Quy. On arrival at an appointed meeting place on the Lanh Channel, Phan Tien Dao and Vu Van Tri stopped their barges to enable the sampans of the Phan Van Thanh illegal trader gang to accost and take paddy. More than 38 tons of paddy from Vu Van Tri's barges were sold to the illegal traders but when only 9.5 tons of paddy from Phan Tien Dao's barges had just been sold, the pursuing public security boats caught up with them and caught them red-handed. At that moment, Phan Tien Dao ordered his boat to accelerate to prevent the public security boats from accosting it. Long [Phan Tien Dao's accomplice] ordered Tri to use rifles to open fire on the public security boats and then Long immediately took Tri's rifle and fired three more shots at the public security boats. However, the quick-witted public security force hunted them down and caught all of them.

All the culprits pleaded guilty before the court. Phan Dinh Hung, head of the barge No 364 crew, confessed that he and his accomplices had previously sold 8 tons of state-owned rice to illegal traders for 75,000 dong, that they shared 50,000 dong between them and bribed cargo weight controllers with 25,000 dong to hush up their wrongdoing. The Phan Van Thanh-Le Thi Quy illegal trader gang and their accomplices admitted that they had secretly contacted the crews of state paddy-rice transporting barges 17 times in order to buy and sell about 160 tons of rice and to carry out speculation.

After hearing the People's Organ of Control representative's indictment and the lawyers' defense, the Ben Tre Provincial People's Court returned the

following verdict: Culprits Pham Tien Dao, Vu Van Tri, Nghiem Dinh Long, Hoang Suu Sap and their accomplices were guilty of embezzling the socialist property; in particular, Pham Tien Dao and Nghiem Dinh Long were also guilty of resisting the authorities in the performance of their duties; Phan Van Thanh, Le Thi Quy and their accomplices were guilty of grain speculation and socialist property embezzlement.

The court passed the following sentences:

--Pham Tien Dao and Phan Van Thanh: death sentence.

--Vu Van Tri, Nghiem Dinh Long and Hoang Suu Sap: life imprisonment.

--Seven other culprits: each 20 years in prison.

--Eight other culprits: each ranging from 2 to 18 years in prison.

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CSO: 4209/7

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

ATTACKER OF HOSPITAL STAFF CONDEMNED

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 18 Aug 84 p 4

[Text] On the afternoon of 16 August 1984, the Dong Da Precinct People's Court openly tried the case of Tran Duc Long, 26, residing in Room No 44, Apartment C in the collective residential area of the Thang Long Cigarettes Factory, on charge of assaulting state cadres and employees while they were fulfilling their duties (this incident was reported by HANOI MOI in its 7 March 1984 issue). Despite the treatment devoutly given by the female employees and doctors at the Dong Da Maternity Hospital, Long's child died of congenital heart disease and acute respiratory failure.

Though the maternity hospital doctors clearly explained the case to him, Long and other fellows called Pham Van Guy and Tran Duc Thanh still found a pretext to rudely and savagely beat the midwives called Thao, Mien Tuyet as well as Dr Ngoc, wounding them seriously, especially Ms Thao who had to be hospitalized for more than 4 months and so far has not yet fully recovered.

Faced with the obvious evidence gathered by criminal law organs and mentioned in the indictment by the Dong Da Precinct People's Organ of Control, Long and his accomplices could not deny their crime. By virtue of Article 9 of State Decree No 03 promulgated in 1976, the Dong Da Court passed the following sentences:

--Tran Duc Long: 12 months in prison. Thanh and Quy were acquitted but their breach of criminal law should be entered on their police records and all the three culprits were ordered to indemnify the four women for 10,130 dong worth of medication.

The trial ended with the approval and contentment of the whole audience.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

UPLAND VILLAGE COMBATS SUPERSTITION, ENEMY PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 29 Aug 84 p 3

[Article by Tran Su: "Thanh Quan Village Eliminates Superstition, Resists Enemy's Psychological Warfare"]

[Text] Thanh Quan is an upland village of Nhu Xuan District in Thanh Hoa Province with a population of more than 4,000 people, many of them from ethnic minorities. During past years, much superstition has existed in Thanh Quan. According to statistics of the public security and the culture and information committee, the village has more than 100 people employed in the superstition profession, accounting for 15 percent of those so employed within the district. Such a figure is rare, not only in Thanh Hoa Province but in many other local areas throughout the entire nation. This very social ill has caused serious harm to the spiritual and material lives of family after family and hamlet after hamlet. It has also created no small complexity for political security and social order in the local area. Many backward habits have not been overcome and weddings and funerals with old and outmoded customs continue to exist. The enemy and unsavory elements thoroughly exploit the backward situation of these compatriots with each "warlock" and "demon" providing them an opportunity to counterpropagandize and bewilder the people. Not a few families with someone sick will seek out a wizard or soothsayer to perform a ceremony for driving away evil spirits and pursuing devils, resulting in continuous and unwarranted deaths. For a period of many years, because newly matured male and female youths were so obsessed with the words of soothsayers, they became so concerned about their fate and conjugal destiny that they avoided their responsibilities to society and even to their entire family. The Thai ethnic minority in Thanh Quan state that in worship alone, each family makes at least three or four offerings each month. Each offering costs about 300 dong in savings which amounts to 11,000 or 12,000 dong per year. When this figure is calculated for the entire village, it becomes extremely large.

Clearly recognizing these serious consequences, under the leadership of the party committee and local administrative echelons, the public security forces joined concerned sectors in determined struggle with the immediate objective to eliminate superstition and to build a new cultural life. The village assembled those engaged in the superstition profession for education and transformation. These individuals were clearly divided into various categories: those engaged in the profession for a long time, those active over a wide area (including other villages), those newly entering the profession, etc., and on that basis, specific methods of education were defined. Through study and education, they

recognized the fault and harm of their work and the local administration conducted a review so they could clearly explain their cheating tricks of magic to the masses. Through exposure of the "warlocks" and "demons," the ethnic minority people came to understand the truth that things that they had long believed in were false. After a phase of transformation, the "warlocks" and "demons" were returned to the village and divided into teams to work and to monitor one another. The people in the hamlets meet monthly to evaluate each individual and to promptly unmask anyone still surreptitiously engaging in his old trade. Under the supervision of the district, Thanh Quan has taken the initiative to hold discussions with the two adjoining villages, Thanh Phong and Thanh Lam, on procedures preventing individuals entering from neighboring villages to seek divination and worship.

Resisting superstition and building a new life are two aspects which must be carried out simultaneously. While economic development in the local areas is still unstable and many difficulties still exist in the lives of the people, the enemy is constantly seeking every means of sabotage. Superstition is a good plot of ground of which the adversary takes advantage to wage psychological warfare and to destroy the confidence of the people in the regime.

Clearly understanding this fact, in conjunction with the determined elimination of superstition, Thanh Quan has gradually constructed a new cultural life. A disease prevention and sanitation movement with specific tasks such as: moving animal pens outside and far from the home, clearing brush from around housing areas, building sanitation projects under the direction of the public health sector, promoting the eating of hot food and drinking of boiled water, and the maintenance of hamlet sanitation is being urgently implemented. The public health station has been significantly strengthened. Through actual practice during the past few years, the ethnic minority people of Thanh Quan have come to believe in the station and to admire and respect the results of the disease prevention and treatment work. These achievements are closely tied in with the contributions of the security forces and other mass organizations in the local area.

Responding to the "eliminate superstition, resist enemy psychological warfare" campaign of the Thanh Hoa Province People's Committee, the upland village of Thanh Quan through the good experience gained during the past nearly 5 years has put forth many active methods. Clearly drawn handbills, classical drawings and cartoons with a "build" and "resist" theme are found everywhere in the village, reminding everyone to comply. The "build" and "resist" theme is also regularly discussed in the meetings and daily activities of organizations and production teams where superstition has been basically liquidated. Thanh Quan is determined in the shortest possible time to eliminate superstition from the lives of the people, to lead in the struggle to resist enemy psychological warfare and to maintain its title as the leading unit in the upland district of Nhu Xuan in Thanh Hoa Province.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

UNIT 8 IMPROVES TROOP-CIVILIAN RELATIONS

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 31 Aug 84 p 2

[Article by Phan Huynh: "Unit 8 Maintains Strict Discipline in Military-Civilian Relations"]

[Text] Unit 8 is stationed next to a state fruit farm. Leaving the camp gate for training or work, the troops are surrounded by wide and endless pineapple fields with many rows of ripe golden fruit year round or by groves of lemon and orange trees heavy with fruit.

Before the middle of 1983, due to a lack of careful education in discipline, a number of soldiers in the unit thought there was nothing wrong with picking a few of the state farm's fruits. Therefore, it was impossible to avoid small confrontations every few weeks between the state farm workers and the soldiers of the unit. One soldier was detained overnight by the workers. A number of substandard soldiers often ganged together to jeer the state farm protection personnel. There was even a fight resulting in an injured worker and soldiers from the unit being sent to the hospital for care and attention. The atmosphere of unity between the workers and the soldiers of the unit was at times fairly tense.

Faced with this situation, the cadres of Unit 8 severely reviewed their leadership role and set forth methods to overcome the problems. During the middle of 1983, the unit took the initiative to organize a "military and civilian one will" conference to which they invited the state farm director and 10 representatives from the farm's production units. The unit's sincere attitude of self-criticism moved the state farm's leaders and also caused them to more clearly recognize their responsibilities for coordinating and uniting with the unit. Both sides unified their policies and set forth methods of resolving the problems in order to strengthen relations between the state farm and the unit. Subsequently, Unit 8 held phases of widespread political activity. Detachments studied the revolutionary qualities of the people's army and the "assist the people to strike the aggressors" tradition for which the unit was praised by Uncle Ho during the war of resistance against the French. Everyone, from the cadres to the soldiers, conducted a severe self-review to clearly recognize the harmful effects of a life lacking strict maintenance of military discipline and the laws of the state.

The youth union chapters continuously presented lectures with a theme of: "What can be done to achieve an increasingly better military-civilian relationship?"

Each of the unit's youth union chapters formed a brotherhood with a chapter in the state farm. Monthly, the unit youth union chapters go to the farm to work with their fraternal chapters in raising pineapples and in weeding the orange and lemon groves. Through these work sessions, the troops have become further imbued with the value of their days of labor and with the fact that their abilities have directly influenced their own lives and the lives of the families of each worker.

With the purpose of firmly managing the organization and command of troops outside the camp, Unit 8 has set forth specific regulations such as allowing the troops to pass through the state farm on their way to gather firewood in the forest only on command; making the detachment commander responsible when his troops travel about freely; and requiring any soldier leaving the camp to record his destination and times of departure and return. During the second week of each month, the youth union chapters hold a day of discipline self-management to praise good examples in the execution of civilian proselytism and discipline and to severely criticize poor actions.

The results are that during the first 7 months of 1984, not one soldier of Unit 8 has had a disciplinary infraction involving civilians. The troops have visited and assisted the state farm with 7,500 man-days in building transportation routes and raising oranges and pineapples. Relations between the workers and troops have become increasingly closer. This past June at a time in which the pineapples were ripe, Unit 8 held outside training for nearly the entire month on the land of the state farm without the loss of one fruit. Moved by the spirit of strict discipline of the troops, the state farm workers had a vehicle haul a gift of pineapples and lemons to the unit. When the barracks of a company in Unit 8 recently burned down, the state farm workers chopped down 400 Eucalyptus trees and cut and wove 7,000 bamboo lattices to assist the men in rebuilding their barracks and promptly returning to training.

In a recent military-civilian solidarity conference held at Unit 8, the local state forest service director movingly stated, "The coordination and unity initiative and maintenance of discipline in military-civilian relations of Unit 8 have clearly captured the sympathy of leadership echelons from the provincial to the local level. The basis reason is good compliance with discipline by the troops. You are truly worthy of the title of "Uncle Ho's Troops."

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

READER ADVOCATES PUNISHMENT OF SMUGGLERS

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 4 Sep 84 p 3

['Readers Letters' Column: "Severely Punish Smugglers"]

[Text] Vehicles on the Met-Hanoi line commonly carry extremely large amounts of smuggled goods, especially fiber tobacco. The smugglers usually compel the drivers to be an accessory and, when arriving at the public security and tax stations with few people, commonly use the crowd to intimidate those doing their duty or resort to other unsavory stratagems to spirit by their smuggled goods.

At 1630 on 18 August 1984, a Met-Hanoi bus with a license number of 29D-04-06 arrived at Bac Giang City and was requested to halt by the communications and transportation police (of the Ha Bac Public Security Service). A search of the vehicle revealed more than 1 ton of fiber tobacco. Although a group of unsavory individuals crowded in front of the public security agency headquarters, the police continued to resolutely apply severe punishment for the smuggled goods above in accordance with the law.

All the cadres and people of Bac Giang City, including the passengers on the bus which was delayed by the smuggled goods above, praise the strict job by the police of the Ha Bac Communications and Transportation Police Bureau.

Nguyen Kim Ngoc
Ha Bac Province

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

ASSAULT YOUTHS' ASSISTANCE IN MAINTAINING WARD SECURITY REPORTED

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 14 Sep 84 p 2

[Article by Nguyen Quang: "Security Assault Youth Unit Set Up in Thanh Cong Ward"]

[Text] The Communist Youth Union in Thanh Cong Ward, Ba Dinh Precinct, recently held a ceremony marking the debut of its security assault youth unit and the implementation of a program of joint action by this unit and the public security force in the ward.

This security youth unit is a mobile one composed of 28 youth union members and other youths whose duty is to coordinate with the public security force to maintain political security and social order and security and to protect the socialist and people's properties. Once every week--on Saturdays named "Days of the Youths As Collective Masters"--, the unit detachments have gone out to inspect the state of sanitation, order, safety and regulation implementation by each house and apartment. The unit has also assumed the maintenance of public order and security and the market management in Thanh Cong market and surrounding areas. In addition, the unit has organized cultural, literary, artistic and sport activities to attract and gather other youths and has implemented a plan to coordinate with families and schools to manage and educate backward youths; teenagers and children.

After only a short period of activity, the Thanh Cong Ward security assault youth unit has helped the public security force discover three cases of socialist property violation, two cases of gambling and many instances of illegal use of electricity.

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

GDR-FINANCED REHABILITATION CENTER INAUGURATED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 1 Sep 84 p 4

[Text] By mutual agreement between the SRV and GDR Governments, on 31 August, the SRV Ministry of War Invalids and Social Welfare and the GDR Solidarity Committee held a ceremony to inaugurate the Vietnam-GDR Rehabilitation Center. Present at the inaugural ceremony were, on the Vietnamese side, Song Hao, member of the Party Central Committee and minister of War Invalids and Social Welfare; Trinh Ngoc Thai, secretary general of the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship with Other People; representatives of the Office of the Council of Ministers, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Public Health and Building, the Hanoi Municipal Party and People's Committees as well as representatives of various agencies and mass organizations at the central and local levels. The GDR side was represented by [Cuoc Dai] [Vietnamese phonetics], head of the Inspection Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and chairman of the GDR Solidarity Committee, together with members of the GDR delegation on visit to Vietnam and with [Herman Servizau], GDR ambassador to Vietnam.

Also attending the inaugural ceremony were many Vietnamese cadres and workers and German specialists participating in the building and installation of machines and equipment at the center.

Built and equipped with the GDR aid, the Vietnam-GDR Rehabilitation Center (Hanoi) includes three installations: a machinery enterprise to manufacture semifinished products, an orthopedic device assembly workshop and a medical treatment and rehabilitation department. The center will receive, treat and rehabilitate wounded soldiers, war victims and invalids from many provinces; conduct orthopedic research, plan and manufacture orthopedic devices; train and improve cadres and workers in orthopedics and rehabilitation technique; produce semifinished orthopedic devices and supply them to other rehabilitation centers.

On behalf of the Vietnamese party and state, Song Hao expressed sincere gratitude to the party, government, people, Solidarity Committee and Ministry of Public Health of the fraternal GDR, to the Berlin Orthopedic Center and to the GDR specialists working at the [Vietnamese] center. In his inaugural speech, [Cuoc Dai] affirmed the GDR's fraternal solidarity with the SRV.

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

PHAM VAN DONG MEETS WITH HO CHI MINH CITY LEADERS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 8 Aug 84 p 1

[VNA News Release: "Chairman Pham Van Dong Holds Informal Meeting with the Leaders of the Ho Chi Minh City Government"]

[Text] On the afternoon of 7 August, Pham Van Dong, member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State, visited the Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee.

Mai Chi Tho, member of the Party Central Committee and chairman of the city people's committee, and Phan Van Khai, member of the Party Central Committee and vice chairman of the city people's committee, reported to Chairman Pham Van Dong on the city's implementation of its state plan during the first 6 months of the year. Mai Chi Tho reported to the chairman that the executive committee of the city party organization has studied the resolution of the 6th Party Plenum and expressed high enthusiasm, confidence and determination for turning the resolution into a revolutionary action movement of the masses with a view toward successfully completing the 1984 plan and building momentum for the development of the city's revolutionary work in 1985, a year of important historical significance.

Chairman Pham Van Dong was very happy that Ho Chi Minh City has responded to the resolution of the 6th Party Plenum with high enthusiasm and confidence and remarked that he sees many positive changes occurring within the city. He spoke to the city's cadres concerning a number of situations facing the country and underscored the important role and position of Ho Chi Minh City in the country's common revolutionary cause.

The meeting greatly encouraged and inspired the government leaders of Ho Chi Minh City. Amidst the meeting's very warm atmosphere, Mai Chi Tho and the other comrades in attendance expressed deep gratitude to Chairman Pham Van Dong, heartily wished him good health and promised him that Ho Chi Minh City will make every effort to implement the resolution of the 6th Party Plenum in a strict and creative manner in order to be worthy of the thoughtful concern of the Party Central Committee and the deep interest in the city of the compatriots of the entire country.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

UNIT 8 EMPHASIZES PARTY MEMBER TRAINING, MANAGEMENT

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 30 Aug 84 p 2

[Article by Le Dan: "Party Member Education, Management in Unit 8"]

[Text] After completing an international mission of assistance to the friends, Unit 8 shifted to combat readiness training. Most of the cadres and party members in the unit had been tempered in combat with practical experience and many achievements. This was a favorable foundation for achieving high quality in the training.

In reality however, the unit during the past few years has attained only an average level. Why is this?

In seeking a realistic understanding of the unit, we learned that one of the main reasons for the ups and downs was that management, education and training of the party members was not continuous, regular or systematic. Within the unit, a number of party members committed disciplinary infractions, acted in a liberal manner in daily activities and failed to develop a model vanguard role. A number of party members believed that since they had been trained and challenged in combat and had come face to face with the enemy, they could neglect study and training and not link themselves within the disciplinary framework. On the other hand, constantly intruding difficulties and negative aspects from outside society and difficult family economic conditions also had no small influence on the thoughts and feelings of a number of party members. Among the cadres and party members were expressions of one's main purpose being to complete the mission but unwillingness to engage in critical struggle. A number of party members such as Nguyen Van H in Company 7, Nguyen Huu T in Company 25, etc. were previously model individuals working with a high sense of responsibility. However, a slanted perception causing them to become lax led to a sub-standard party outlook and dissension in resolving problems between public and private matters.

There were many reasons for the negative expressions of the party members in the Unit 8 party organization during that period but the most outstanding was that the party committee echelon and commander gave little attention or concern to strengthening and managing the primary level party organization and did not promptly ascertain the ideological changes of each party member.

Faced with this situation, a unit party committee resolution stated, "To build a strong unit, it is necessary first of all to develop the model vanguard role

of the party member. To have a strong party chapter, strong party members are the first necessity."

To train the ranks of party members and develop the leadership strength of the party chapters, the party organization revamped the party activity procedures and resolutely implemented four systems of strictly maintaining party discipline with: ideological and political activity; training in the quality of revolutionary ethics; firm party member management; and inspection. With an objective of effectively achieving these four systems, the party organization set forth specific requirements for each study theme in communist theory, party member quality training and self-cultivation, etc. and stipulated specific time periods for each party chapter.

Party chapter secretaries received additional training and guidance in the preparation of plan themes and study materials. The plan theme of each party chapter is presented to the unit party committee for approval. Reviews and inspections are held after each lesson. Inspection points are counted in the party member qualification evaluation held by the chapters during each quarter. Firm maintenance of each of these factors and steps has assisted in clearly raising the study quality of the party members during each month. The resolution of the party chapter has been strictly executed.

In conjunction with education and study, firm management of every activity of the party member is a step given special emphasis by the unit party organization. The party chapter each week directly monitors the mission completion results of each task performed by each party member. Periodically, the party members in the party chapters are evaluated and reclassified: those having family difficulties, those of limited ability, those doing poorly in training, etc. Based on this classification, the party organization formulates plans and joins the party chapter in providing advanced training for specific individuals in order to gradually assist the party members in resolving their difficulties or overcoming shortcomings in developing their model vanguard role. With firm management and collective efforts to assist and improve, a number of party members with weaknesses and poor discipline such as Nguyen Xuan T and Bui Thanh D, etc. have made clear changes.

Tran Van Khanh, full-time party secretary, informed us that due to deep concern for the management and education of the party member, violations by the cadres and party members have been limited. The newly accepted party members have all well-developed their model vanguard role. The entire party organization recently trained and assisted more than 200 outstanding youth union members to be introduced to the party.

Unit 8 has made strong changes. This fact increasingly confirms that concentrated training, education and management of the unit's party members are both necessary and correct. It is a task which every leadership and command level must regularly and continuously perform.

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

TASKS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF TECHNOIMPORT DISCUSSED

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 4 Aug 84 p 3

[Article: "Import of Projects for the Capital and Country"]

[Text] The task of the General Corporation for the Import of Equipment and Technology, or TECHNOIMPORT as it is called, Ministry of Foreign Trade, is to import items to support the industrialization of the country.

During the past 25 years, with a thorough understanding of the viewpoint on foreign trade to support production, TECHNOIMPORT has imported thousands of large and small projects for the economic sectors, and 750 projects have been built and put into use. With the function of serving as the staff element, during the period 1959 to 1975, this general corporation coordinated things with the sectors and ministries in adhering to the requirements in order to import suitable equipment, materials and designs to build projects. [A total of] 590 projects valued at 800 million (dong) have gradually been put into production. These include the Thac Ba Hydroelectric Project, the Uong Bi Thermoelectric Project, the Viet Tri Chemicals Project, oil storage dumps and pipelines, news stations and automobile repair stations. After the country was reunified, in contributing to fulfilling the second 5-year plan (1976-1980), the general corporation mobilized capital and aid to import 378 equipment projects to support socialist construction. During that period, 106 projects were built and put into production. These included the Viet-Czech lock enterprise in Dong Anh, the Dong Anh ball bearing enterprise, the Thinh Liet concrete enterprise, the Phyc Thinh brick enterprise and the Linh Nam silicate enterprise. During the period of the third 5-year plan (1981-1985), the general corporation has made preparations and imported 140 projects. During the first 3 years of the plan, 54 projects were imported, including many large projects such as the Pha Lai Thermoelectric Turbine 1, the Thang Long Bridge, the Bai Bang Paper Mill, the Bim Son and Hoang Thach cement plants and the Ha Long Shipyard.

During the past 25 years, a rather large number of projects have been reserved for Hanoi. At the thousands of factories, enterprises, workshops and work sites such as the Dai Thanh concrete enterprise, the Xuan Hoa bicycle factory, the Cau Dien chicken farm, the cultural products enterprise, sewing needle shops and children's hospitals that have sprung up and gone into operation, many people are not aware of the contributions made by TECHNOIMPORT.

To carry out Political Bureau Resolution 08 on the work of Hanoi, the general corporation has organized things for the workers and civil servants to study and discuss matters, and it has specific work programs. Besides the general projects built in Hanoi, such as the People's Cultural Palace, the Thang Long bridge, and the statue of Lenin, TECHNOIMPORT has made plans to carry out many new projects to beautify the capital and support the people's lives effectively. The plans to improve the irrigation system and to repair stations and build new ones, with help from Finland, are about to be implemented. A burning problem for Hanoi is electricity. Plans have been made to improve the medium and low voltage power network. This will be done in two stages: During the period 1983 to 1985, the immediate problems will be solved; during the period 1986 to 1990, regular plans will be drawn up. Other projects such as the Hanoi thread factory and the Thang Long bridge (thoroughfare), are being completed.

During the past 25 years, TECHNOIMPORT has overcome many difficulties in order to complete the tasks entrusted to it and to contribute to carrying on socialist industrialization. Besides being awarded two labor orders, third class, on 20 July 1984, the Council of State awarded TECHNOIMPORT the Labor Order, Second Class, for its outstanding achievements in work.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

ACHIEVEMENTS, PROBLEMS OF HANOI NEZ DURING PAST YEAR REVIEWED

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 7 Aug 84 p 3

[Article by Vu Hoa My, chairman of the Hanoi New Economic Zone Construction Committee at Lam Dong: "One Year of Struggle By the Hanoi New Economic Zone"]

[Text] The Hanoi new economic zone at the Lam Dong was greatly honored by the visit of Truong Chinh, the chairman of the Council of State, on 30 July 1983. It has now been 1 year since his visit.

During this past year, we have made a number of advances. Specifically, we have constructed and expanded the industrial-agricultural-forestry economic pattern. Even though many difficulties concerning materials, capital, raw materials and fuel were encountered, even though there was a shortage of crop seed and even though we had to concentrate on reclaiming wasteland, producing items, receiving people and building roads all at the same time, we managed to complete the tasks satisfactorily. In 1984, the prospects of having a good harvest are very good. It is estimated that crop 1 will produce almost 3,000 tons of grain (converted to paddy equivalent).

In particular, at the Vinh Hung rice and jute farm, rice yields have doubled. Yields of all types of crops have increased. For the entire zone, the average corn yield is 2.2 tons per hectare (an increase of 2 quintals per hectare as compared with 1983). The wet rice area and yields have increased rapidly. In 1983, there were 161 hectares planted in winter-spring rice. This increased to 342 hectares in 1984. The average yield was 2.5 tons per hectare (an increase of more than 300 kg per hectare as compared with 1983). Some places such as Dan Phuong 2 have had yields of 5 tons per hectare. Legume yields have reached 300 tons.

As for the industrial crops area, an additional 35 hectares of coffee and 110 hectares of tea have been planted. At present, the rate of new planting is very rapid. An effort is being made to fulfill the 1984 planting plan by 15 August. The first and second phases of weeding and applying fertilizer and the planting have been completed.

As for animal husbandry, the number of head of cattle has increased from 350 head in 1983 to 517. At present, there are plans to increase the size of the herd by another 400 head. The number of hogs in the state-operated

sector has increased, and, in particular, the number in the family sector has increased from 1,600 in 1983 to 3,215. Among these are 68 brood sows, which satisfies part of the need for breeding hogs. In the family sector, the chicken flocks have increased in size as compared with the previous year. On the average, each family has 15 to 20 chickens.

Pisciculture has expanded, too. Fourty hectares are being used to raise fish.

Concerning forestry, besides improving and looking after the existing forest area, to date, an additional 5 hectares have been planted in pine trees, and 30,000 fruit trees have been planted. From now until the end of the rainy season, another 4 hectares will be planted in pine trees. In particular, much attention has been given to preventing forest fires. The fire extinguishing forces have been solidified. During the past dry season, they put out two major forest fires in the zone.

As for industrial production, the value of gross production rose from 9 million in 1983 to more than 12 million in 1984. During the first 6 months of 1984, 51 percent of the annual plan was fulfilled. Expanding and developing the handicrafts sectors has been stressed. In conjunction with two handicrafts and arts cooperatives in Dalat, the zone has produced various types of wooden articles and improved their quality.

In circulation and distribution, the commercial corporations have organized things to send goods to support the cooperatives and ensure that essential items such as dried fish, fish sauce and lighting oil are distributed well. Bartering for agricultural products has been organized with good results. The network of marketing cooperatives at the primary level has been expanded in six places, both remote as well as central. This year, the amount purchased and sold has doubled as compared with 1983. Per capita exports have reached \$5. During the first 6 months of the year, export goods increased clearly, with castor-oil plants increasing 10 percent and dried, sliced cassava increasing 70 percent.

As for capital construction, this year, the entire zone is concentrating its efforts on completing the repair and resurfacing of 11 roads, reclaiming an additional 111 hectares of land and filling in an additional 167 hectares of swampy land in order to grow wet rice, constructing 250 fields, inaugurating another 2 steel bridges and 5 reservoirs for water conservancy projects and building another 440 ponds and 1,000 square meters of meeting halls and offices for the cooperatives. The entire zone is striving to reach 20 million dong by the end of the year for capital construction of new projects such as hospitals, schools and the Cam Ly bridge. This is an increase of 8 million dong as compared with 1983.

As for training cadres and building the administration, the entire zone has opened 4 classes and trained 80 tractor drivers and mechanics, 90 level-1 and kindergarten teachers and 60 cooperative management cadres from accountants to directors. Besides this, many short-term training classes have been opened.

The elections to the town people's councils have gone well and through this, the administration has been strengthened and solidified.

As for military security, Political Bureau Resolution 03 of the Standing Committees of the Municipal VCP Committee on resisting the enemy's war of destruction have been reviewed. The norms for recruiting youths, first phase, have been fulfilled, and three additional self-defense platoons have been organized in the three cooperatives of Hoai Duc 2, Phuc Tho 2 and Dan Phuong 3.

The public health network is constantly being solidified, and it is operating better and better. The diagnosis and treatment of diseases in Nam Ban and Tan Ha is now being done more carefully than before. All the recent arrivals have been issued anti-malaria medicine.

On the education front, all of this year's general middle school students graduated, and 96 percent of the students passed the PTCS-level examination. The percentage of students advancing to a higher grade was 90 percent on up. Organizing schools at the cooperatives has made it convenient for children to attend school. At present, on the average, one out of four people in the zone attends school.

Cultural and news activities, wired radio activities and movies have also expanded. This year, another movie theater was built in Tan Ha, and three more wired radio stations were established at State Farm 3, Dan Phuong Cooperative 3 and the Tam Xa Cooperative. The cultural and arts and letters movements are expanding well, and the construction of a cultural life and the new cultural family has made progress.

Because of developing things correctly, the abilities and labor strength of the people of Hanoi in the Lam Dong highlands have been manifested. This has been particularly true in the handicrafts and agricultural products processing sectors. Also, the scientific and technical advances have been applied in animal husbandry and crop cultivation. This has helped stabilize life and given rise to many good hopes. This has attracted people, who have enthusiastically volunteered to join in construction. During the first 6 months of 1984, the entire zone welcomed 452 families and established 3 new cooperatives. There were additional laborers for two state farms and a number of units.

However, there are still a number of weaknesses that must be overcome. For example:

Intensive cultivation, erosion control, market management, the exchange of convection commodities, product withdrawal, the expansion of handicraft goods and the construction and repair of schools are not done in a timely manner.

In order to build on the above successes, for the next 6 months, we have put forth the following seven programs:

To complete the harvesting of the first crops satisfactorily.

To have the second crop fulfill the planned norms and increase export goods.

To further expand the handicrafts sector.

To strengthen management for industry, agriculture, forestry and circulation and distribution.

To motivate the people and cadres to purchase phase-2 fatherland construction bonds.

To complete the militia and self-defense forces and defense training courses at the production installations.

To have 95 percent of the children attending school at the beginning of the new school year.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

ARTICLE CALLS FOR TIGHTER STATE CONTROL OF MARKET IN NAM BO

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 20, 21 Sep 84

[Article by Le Huyen Thong: "Some Matters Concerning the Strengthening of Socialist Commerce and Market Management in Nam Bo"]

[20 Sep 84 pp 2, 4]

[Text] I. How Can the State Achieve Control Over the Sources of Goods?

We recently had an opportunity to examine some party organizations in their leadership of distribution and circulation within a number of provinces in the Mekong River Delta and eastern Nam Bo as well as within Ho Chi Minh City. The realities of life in the localities show even more clearly that production must be closely tied to distribution and circulation and that production is the base of circulation. The process of performing this task demands that the party organizations on the various levels establish the various relationships well, especially the relationships between leading the development of production and stabilizing living conditions, between reorganizing production and reorganizing the commerce business and between transformation and construction and market management. There were three questions that were frequently raised during the time we spent working with the key cadres of Hau Giang, Kien Giang, An Giang, Ben Tre, Cuv Long and Long An Provinces and Ho Chi Minh City. They were:

--Production has developed rather well but why are the masses still encountering many difficulties in their daily lives?

--What are the reasons behind state goods falling into the hands of private merchants?

--How can the market be managed well?

Although the answers to these questions differ in degree from one province to the next, they all reflect agreement that the state must control the sources of goods and always closely tie all three areas together: building the forces of socialist commerce and transforming and managing the market.

Lessons Learned From Practice

Tra Vinh City in Cuu Long Province has a population of more than 60,000. Between 1979 and 1981, the city's industrial, small industry and handicraft production was transformed and reorganized, as a result of which the output of consumer goods increased rapidly and the city was awarded the Labor Order. However, production only developed well for awhile. The production of the state-operated and collective installations in industry and small industry gradually declined due to the instability of the market. The city has 1,148 private businesses in commerce, 223 of which are large, most of which are in the grain, food product, general merchandise, cloth, electrical appliance, food-beverage and service sectors. As a result of the many loopholes in management, the majority of the products of industry and small industry found their way to the free market. Some persons became rich very quickly through sources of black market goods and differences in prices for the same goods. The standing committee of the city party committee promptly reviewed this situation and determined the reasons for it, the most important of which was the failure to closely tie the reorganization of production to the reorganization of distribution and circulation. That is, Tra Vinh had not transformed industry in conjunction with transforming private commerce. At the time that collective production was beginning to stabilize, some families within small industry and handicraft cooperatives and teams went back to being merchants because the market was being managed in a lax fashion. Even some small merchants who had moved to the countryside to participate in agricultural production left their fields and gardens to earn their livings at markets. Clearly, the lax management of the market was having a negative impact upon some production installations. More than a few cadres and workers were slipping state goods to private merchants. As a result, prices changed.

The city party committee proposed a number of measures designed to continue the reorganization of production at state-operated and collective installations while expanding and strengthening the marketing cooperatives in a manner closely tied to transforming and managing the market. In 1983, the value of the total output of small industry and the handicraft trades in Tra Vinh increased three-fold (118 million dong) and, during the first 6 months of this year, it has increased four times compared to 1982. Production has increased rapidly, the quality of products is better and, most importantly, the state controls both the flow of goods and money. This has had the effect of helping to stimulate the reorganization of the commerce sector. Together with reorganizing and developing the production of small industry and expanding its ties with Ho Chi Minh City, Tra Vinh City has established a number of additional business corporations, set up hundreds of retail stores and counters, strengthened the marketing cooperatives and reorganized private merchants by product sector. Efforts were first focused on transforming the pork sector in a manner closely linked to reorganizing the service and food-beverage sector. Some 26 skilled, private businessmen who have complied with the policy on socialist transformation are being used to procure and slaughter hogs (at a commission) for state stores. The city has also reorganized the service and food-beverage sector and a number of other essential sectors. The good point here is that the transformation of a product sector has been accompanied by the reorganization of that sector. This process also has the purpose of making it possible to expand the forces of socialist commerce and

enabling the state to control sources of goods so that circulation is not interrupted and the consumer needs of the working people are met.

Hoa Thanh District is a commerce center, a center of industry and small industry in Tay Ninh Province; however, it is also a place that has rather complex political and social problems. The district party committee has carried out the transformation of agricultural production, industry, commerce and the services in a well coordinated manner in conjunction with expanding socialist commerce within the villages. More than 60 percent of farm households and cropland have been brought into collective production and the district has also virtually completed the reorganization of industry, small industry and the handicraft trades together with establishing a number of additional business corporations and general merchandise stores within the district and nearly two dozen village marketing cooperatives and creating the conditions for them to quickly begin doing business, take the place of private merchants, control the market and control sources of goods right within the villages. As a result of well coordinated management, Hoa Thanh District has been able to control industrial products and procure many agricultural and food products, thereby helping to stabilize the market and prices and uniformly increase production.

The municipality of Can Tho has a population of 260,000. What sets it apart is the fact that it controls the sources of goods and has resolved the problem of food for cadres, personnel and laborers on its own. This was accomplished by the Food Product-General Merchandise Corporation coordinating with the various sectors in the transformation and reorganization of the small merchants selling pork. Working with marketing cooperatives, state-operated commerce has assisted farmers and the families of cadres and manual workers in developing livestock production. As a result, the city is able to control both wholesale and retail sales throughout this product sector.

Visits to Soc Trang City, Vi Thanh District (Hau Giang), Long Xuyen City (An Giang) and a number of precincts in Ho Chi Minh City to learn more about how they organize and manage the market underscored the fact that only by the state controlling increasingly large quantities of industrial goods can it engage in trade with farmers in order to control the sources of agricultural products and create the conditions for socialist commerce to dominate the market. Within these model units, facts confirm: in order for the state to control goods, the transformation of industry must be tied to the transformation of private commerce and the reorganization of production must be tied to the reorganization of circulation and market management. This process must extend from production to circulation in order to constantly consolidate and improve the production relations within production, carry out the socialist transformation of circulation and, through circulation, have an impact upon and stimulate the development of production, raise labor productivity, put products into organized circulation and create additional material forces for socialist commerce.

Reorganizing and Managing Product Sectors Well

Tra Vinh City transformed and made changes to the management of the pork sector three times in the past but failed to achieve success. Each attempt at

transformation provided an opportunity for pork prices to soar. Why was this? It was because it failed, at first, to link the transformation of the pork sector to the reorganization of the service and food-beverage sectors and did not establish ties with other localities in order to establish reserve supplies of goods. Tra Vinh achieved success this time mainly because it carried out the thorough transformation of each product sector. That is, transformation has been closely tied to the reorganization of production and the city has made use of private merchants and reorganized commerce activities so that it can take the initiative in controlling the sources of goods. The realities of Vi Thanh District, Soc Trang City and the Ho Chi Minh City Grain Corporation, a model, show that taking such thorough action within each product sector, from production to circulation, and coordinating it with the effective use of the various segments of the economy within each element and for each product results in the gradual establishment of a new organizational structure and management system built along the lines of socialist business.

Discussing this issue with us, Phan Van Khai, acting chairman of the Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee, analyzed the major lesson that has been learned from the grain corporation as a lesson in "transformation closely tied to construction, mainly the reorganization of a product sector. The city has 1,000 private merchants who sell rice. Although we are transforming them in terms of organization and abolishing the private grain business, these persons and their skills are being utilized by us by expanding the network of retail sales agents and organizing various forms of joint rice procurements and sales at the leading markets. Upon the completion of transformation, it is most important that the state control the sources of products. In actuality, these former businessmen are experienced and play an important role in the procurement of rice at markets. When transformation is not thorough within a product sector and transitional economic forms are not employed, it becomes difficult to restore socialist order on the distribution-circulation front."

Chiefly as a result of firmly adhering to the guideline of transformation closely tied to the reorganization and management of each product sector, the Ho Chi Minh City Grain Corporation has established suitable forms of organization, such as marketing cooperative teams that sell rice, teams that procure grain for state stores and joint marketing cooperative teams at the Tran Chanh Chieu and An Lac Markets. This has helped it to gradually control the rice market within the city. Some sectors within the city are also employing transitional form of economic organizations in order to utilize the material bases, experience and skills of private merchants and encourage them to continue to make capital investments and develop their business knowledge in order to create the conditions for socialist commerce to control goods and money.

Causes and Requirements

In our examination of a number of western provinces and Ho Chi Minh City, we found that production has developed quite well in virtually all localities and that the rate of agricultural, industrial and small industry production is twice as high at some places as it once was. Yet why are cadres, manual workers, the armed forces and working people still encountering many difficulties? Of concern are the facts that prices have been increasing

rapidly and the state is still not truly the master of the market. How can these phenomena be explained? We attended a conference held by the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee and the Hau Giang Provincial Party Committee to study and discuss ways to implement the resolution of the 6th Party Plenum. As have a number of Mekong Delta Provinces, the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee observed: "Industrial and agricultural production have developed rather rapidly in recent years. Although many products are being produced, the city does not yet control products and goods. Socialist commerce does not yet control goods. The activities of private merchants are becoming more widespread with each passing day. Prices are continuing to rise. Some persons have quickly become rich by taking advantage of price differences on the market, by relying upon sources of stolen socialist property and through sources of illegitimate income. The enemy is using this situation to sabotage us.

The city party committee stated: "This situation has many causes, primary among which is the fact that the city has yet to take determined and thorough steps to continuously carry out the socialist transformation of private industry and commerce and manage the market."

The conclusion presented above also applies to many provinces within the Nam Bo Delta. Generally speaking, the variety of goods on the market in the various localities is still diverse, the needs of society are being met rather well and supplies are not tight, but not many goods are being controlled by the state. Many types of state goods are falling into the hands of private merchants. These are the means by which private merchants exploit working people, are the weapons by which they monopolize the market.

Within the individual locality, market management is still lax and characterized by many loopholes. More importantly, price discipline is not strict. Some units still use the difference in prices to earn a profit, arbitrarily raise the prices they charge in order to earn additional money and arbitrarily raise the procurement prices they pay in order to gather up many goods, especially export goods. This has resulted in a situation in which many business organizations of the state located within the same area are competing against one another to buy and sell goods, as a result of which they are forced to contend with one another, which has led to disorder in the market and prices. Dishonest merchants have taken full advantage of these weaknesses to engage in speculation and hoarding, raise prices and monopolize the market.

The forces of socialist commerce are the "backbone" of the social market; however, they are not yet strong enough to replace private merchants and control the market. Agricultural and food products constitute an important lifeline but the socialist market sector in the countryside is not well established. Industrial, small industry and handicraft goods play a decisive role in circulation on the market, but socialist commerce organizations have yet to achieve the coordination needed to control goods. As Vo Van Kiet, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, said after visiting and studying a number of districts in the Mekong Delta: "This explains why we have yet to achieve the goal of stabilizing living conditions even though we have met and exceeded practically all production targets. This also shows us that we

cannot stabilize or improve living conditions by merely concerning ourselves with developing production and not giving appropriate attention to the issue of transforming and managing the market. If we continue to allow the free market to operate as it is now, it is very likely that production will continue to develop quite well but we will continue to encounter increasing difficulties in our daily lives."

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II. Combined Strength and Well Coordinated Management

We talked with Bay Du, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee, Hai Trinh, deputy secretary of the Kien Giang Provincial Party Committee, and Sau Phan, chairman of the Hau Giang Provincial People's Committee, concerning the experiences that have been gained in strengthening socialist commerce and tying transformation to market management. The lesson learned from these three localities is that this work is the responsibility of all levels and sectors, most importantly the distribution-circulation, banking, finance, pricing and tax affairs sectors and the armed forces, with the precinct, district, subward and village levels playing the decisive role. This process must involve the well coordinated use of economic, administrative and educational measures, with economic measures serving as the foundation. These economic measures mainly involve measures taken to expand socialist commerce so that it is strong enough to thwart the speculative activities of private merchants. This organizational work must be fully based on the characteristics of the locality, be consistent with the actual situation and involve the correct use of transitional forms of economic organizations. Economic measures also mean giving attention to establishing balance among the economic interests of the state, the collective and the producer as well as among the economic interests of the various organizations within the socialist commerce system, especially to establishing a good relationship between state-operated commerce and collective commerce on the basic level. In addition, it is necessary to establish good ties within the region, ties that encompass socialist transformation and product trade, and establish joint businesses between Ho Chi Minh City and the provinces within the region, thereby helping to restore socialist order to distribution and circulation. This process is the process of employing combined strength and providing well coordinated management.

Establishing a Close Link Between Production and Circulation Right at Installations

We accompanied a number of representatives from the northern provinces and the provinces of Song Be, Hau Giang and Dong Thap on a visit to Hao Duoc in Tay Ninh Province when this unit became the model marketing cooperative of the entire country and was awarded the Labor Order by the Council of State. When we arrived there and saw the attractive building, the plentiful supply of goods, the large and well maintained storehouse and the cordial attitude of the salesgirls, everyone praised the cooperative as being a capable servant of the working people within the village. Hai Phat, vice chairman of the Tay Ninh Provincial People's Committee, summarized the experience gained in building this installation as the party organization knowing how to rely upon

and care for the people and summarized the process of building this cooperative as gradually developing the role of the people as the masters of the market and controlling production, distribution and exchange right within the village. The success of the marketing cooperative in its business is based on its business guidelines and the fact that it is a cooperative that is always based on supporting the production and daily lives of the people within the village. In addition to successfully undertaking the distribution of state supplies to the various production collectives and farm households in accordance with contracts, the cooperative has also maintained and expanded its business in seed, livestock and means of production, thereby meeting the requirements in developing the collective economy, even the household economy, within the village. At Hao Duoc, facts have proven that state-operated commerce must be linked to the marketing cooperative beginning right within the installation in order to provide the conditions needed to control goods and that collective commerce must also rely upon state-operated commerce in order to be able to properly orient its business activities and achieve high returns. As a result of tying itself to the production and daily life of the masses within the locality, the cooperative has laid the groundwork needed to rapidly increase the total value of goods purchased and sold. In 1983, the total sales of Hao Duoc within the village increased to more than 24 million dong. Sales revenues consist of the revenues from the sale of goods procured on consignment, goods sold as a retail sales agent for state-operated commerce and goods in which the cooperative does business on its own. Last year, each farm household within the village sold to the state 6,000 dong worth of agricultural and food products and purchased from the cooperative more than 4,500 dong worth of means of production, medicine and consumer goods. The cooperative has not only helped to control the market and prices, stabilize the living conditions of the people and stimulate the development of production, it has also accumulated nearly 400,000 dong in capital for use in the construction of the village office and the school, public health station, war dead cemetery and wired radio network within the village. As a result of broadening its product sectors and closely tying transformation to management, the Hao Duoc Cooperative has been able to control both money and goods and has managed both its material base and personnel well. During the past 3 years, not one case of misappropriation has occurred within the cooperative. Its cadres have maintained their revolutionary qualities. The party organization's leadership of production is always closely linked to circulation and to organizing the life of the people within the village.

After leaving the model unit Hao Duoc, we visited a number of marketing cooperatives in Long Phu and Vi Thanh in Hau Giang Province, Thanh Phu and Giong Tron in Ben Tre Province, Cho Mai in An Giang Province, Tan Thanh and Ben Luc in Long An Province and Thong Nhat District in Dong Nai Province. To date, the various provinces have established 1,762 marketing cooperatives representing 88.5 percent of the total number of subwards, villages and towns in the Mekong Delta. One hundred percent of the subwards, villages and towns in the provinces of Long An, Tien Giang, Hau Giang and Minh Hai have marketing cooperatives. The 132 marketing cooperatives of Minh Hai Province have mobilized nearly 70 million dong in capital among the people. However, deserving of concern is the fact that many localities continue to complain about the phenomenon of marketing cooperatives being considered "foster children," which is a reflection of the failure on the part of the party

committee to provide comprehensive leadership of distribution and circulation at installations. Generally speaking, the quality of marketing cooperatives is still low. Many places are not fulfilling their procurement and sales functions well nor are they helping to support production and everyday life on the basic level. At many places, the commissions paid are still low compared to bank interest rates on loans. Many units have acquired very little capital on their own. Therefore, the impact of marketing cooperatives in the struggle against private merchants is still limited.

One of the main lessons that has been learned in the struggle between socialism and capitalism within the field of distribution and circulation is the need to successfully build the forces of collective commerce within the villages and subwards. The localities that have maintained production, stabilized the market and brought prices under control are localities that have established close ties between production and circulation, between state-operated commerce and cooperative commerce beginning at installations in order to achieve a combined strength in the process of carrying out transformation in a manner closely linked to the management of the market. This is also the prerequisite to the establishment of an agro-industry-commercial economic structure right within villages (as has been done in Phu Loi Thuong in Ben Tre Province). The key leadership cadres in Hau Giang, Long An, Dong Thap and Tien Giang Provinces have confirmed: "If, in every village and subward in which the main force of commerce is the marketing cooperative, the marketing cooperative does not undertake practically all marketing activities and services and does not truly manage virtually all products within the subward or village, socialist commerce cannot control the market within each precinct, district, province and municipality."

The Two Basic Problems

Many localities have gained control of an important portion of the market by taking strong steps to shift from administrative management and subsidization to accounting procedures and socialist business practices in the process of strengthening state-operated commerce and collective commerce. In Ho Chi Minh City and the municipality of Can Tho, giving the state control over the flow of goods is not simply the task of the Commerce Service, rather, it is also part of the management responsibilities that have been assigned to the precinct, district, subward and village levels. This demands that the force of cadres be strengthened so that they possess all the necessary qualities and skills, that the commerce corporations within each product sector be strengthened and that the district commerce corporations be strengthened in conjunction with expanding the marketing cooperatives within the villages and subwards. The Ho Chi Minh City Grain Corporation is concerned with resolving two basic problems: the organizational structure and the management system of each product sector, each locality and each level, from the municipal to the precinct, district, subward and village levels. This entails the process of coordinating, in a well balanced manner, the business activities of the grain sector within each area in conjunction with establishing close economic ties and effective joint businesses between the city and the provinces of the region. The grain corporation will be unable to dominate the rice market if this model does not have a suitable organizational structure that is tied to the distribution network consisting of thousands of retail rice agents in the

subwards and villages and to organizing and using the small rice dealers at markets. As the summary report of the recent conference on strengthening market management in the southern provinces observed: "The model that is the Ho Chi Minh City Grain Corporation, having extended its control from the sources of grain to the distribution of grain and the grain business, is now extending its control to processing. This model has benefited the working people in a practical way and made a significant contribution to the state budget, consequently, it has been acknowledged by the masses and been received relatively well by rice dealers.

Of course, every sector is different; therefore, the organizational structure of the various product sectors cannot be the same. We must thoroughly study each product sector in order to establish suitable models, balance the interests of the state, the collective and the individual, facilitate distribution, reduce the size of staffs and reduce the costs incurred in circulation."

In Tra Vinh City, from 3 to 4 tons of pork are required each day to meet the needs of the people. At first, state-operated commerce used to sell all 4 tons of the pork slaughtered each day by 1000 hours in the morning. Then, private merchants sold the pork they purchased from the state-operated commerce sector to the people at a price 30 to 40 dong higher per kilogram. After the masses complained about this practice and lessons were learned from this experience, the state-operated commerce sector organized the slaughtering of hogs and began selling pork throughout the day, thereby providing the conditions needed to stabilize prices and control the market. The lesson learned here is that the organizational structure must be closely tied to the management system, the center of which is planning and the implementation of leverage policies. In Ho Chi Minh City, the completion of the transformation of the commercial grain sector must be immediately followed by the adoption of a suitable system, policies and regulations in order to have the correct impact. Leverage policies must be adopted that are designed to establish the correct relationship between the interests of buyers and sellers and a correct relationship among production, processing and circulation with a view toward achieving unified management from top to bottom. The leverage policies that have been implemented at the Tran Chanh Chieu Market and the An Lac Market have had the effect of persuading private merchants to accept the transformation policy and created the conditions for making good use of these persons as well as their technical skills, business knowledge and equipment for the purpose of establishing control over the sources of products wherever transformation has been completed. These practical results have strengthened the material forces of socialist commerce and improved the life of working persons and even the life of those persons who have responded to the policy on the transformation of industry and commerce.

A management system patterned along the lines of socialist business demands that circulation and distribution be organized in a very flexible manner and that the plan be closely tied to the market, especially with regard to vegetables, fruit and fresh food products.

Good Internal Management in Conjunction with the Punishment of Speculators and Black Marketeers

The transformation and management of the market include prohibiting private merchants from doing business in products that are bought and sold exclusively by the state in conjunction with combating speculation, black marketing activities and the manufacture of fake goods, eradicating the black market and waging an effective struggle against all sabotage by the enemy. There are two measures to which the various localities have attached special importance: providing good internal management within state agencies and punishing speculators and black marketers, beginning with their leaders. These are two sides of the same issue. This demands that measures be taken to stop the flow of state goods to private merchants. It can be readily seen that the consumer needs of the people would not be as difficult to meet if, at a time when the quantity of products being produced by society and the quantity of goods controlled by the state are not large, we were to organize distribution well and, in particular, not allow state goods to fall into the hands of private merchants. Persons who earn an honest living, the working people, detest those who steal goods from the state and are very upset by their actions. Why does this phenomenon persist? A look at a number of places in Ho Chi Minh City shows that goods of the state fall into the hands of private merchants because of laxity in everything from the management of plans and the management of production to distribution and transportation at state-operated enterprises and units of the collective economy. Enterprise A. sold beer to Province C. but the province turned around and resold it to private merchants back in the city in order to earn money through the price differential. There have also been cases in which some personnel within the commerce sector, in collusion with undesirable elements on the outside, have bribed a number of cadres in positions of authority and tricked them into committing the same mistake, as a result of which they ultimately agreed to turn their backs and allow themselves to be used by private merchants.

With good market management, there would no longer be any "room" for goods stolen from the state to be marketed. Of course, it is still necessary to take a series of other measures, such as managing storehouses and the transportation of goods well; correctly implementing the regulations on the use of supplies; and regularly inspecting the implementation of economic contracts, commercial subcontracts and two-way contracts between the state and farmers. The lessons that have been learned at many enterprises and economic units within the city demand that the inspection work performed by the functional agencies be further strengthened and that the supervision provided by the people be based on planning and the accounting system, from production to distribution and consumption.

Strengthening the socialist system of law, resolutely punishing the leading speculators and black marketers, promptly and properly punishing persons who steal goods from the state and appropriately rewarding persons who protect public property are also important measures in preventing state goods from falling into the hands of private merchants.

The process of managing the market is also related to the reorganization of the inspection stations along roads. At present, there are numerous

inspection stations operated by various sectors. Besides the good results they have achieved, more than a few stations have posed obstacles to the circulation of goods; at some places, they have demanded bribes and even supported black marketeers. The recent conference of key leadership cadres of the southern provinces recommended that regulations governing these inspection stations be adopted that are suited to each area, each locality and each period of time. Many provinces suggested that goods only be inspected at their point of origin and destination, not along roads, primarily so that efforts can be directed against smugglers and the activities of merchants who drive long distances for goods can be thwarted. Each sector and each person has the responsibility of insuring that state goods are circulated quickly and liquid capital is turned over quickly, thereby creating the conditions for socialist commerce to move forward and become the master of the market and prices.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

NEW APPROACH TO RETAIL TRADE TRIED IN HANOI

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 24 Sep 84 p 2

[Article by Hong Khanh and Huong Lien: "The Change in Hanoi"]

[Text] Not only customers, but public opinion in Hanoi as well acknowledge that the capital's commerce sector has recently undergone many positive changes along the lines of becoming more dynamic, flexible and responsive, of operating more efficiently. Numerous cabinets and counters displaying general merchandise, food products, metal goods, services and so forth are more pleasing to the eye because they offer more merchandise of a broader variety that is conveniently packaged for customers. The problem of stores being "stores without stock" or only having merchandise to display is slowly disappearing. What are the reasons for this? The director of the Hanoi Commerce Service said in a modest and cautious manner: "This change is only the first step. It has been brought about by four measures: creating additional sources of goods, improving our customer service, expanding the socialist commerce network and strengthening the management of the market."

Actually, more than a few unexpected developments led to this change in Hanoi. There was the stark reality in Ho Chi Minh City that could not be ignored. Why has that city been able to establish good models of commerce that have been welcomed by large numbers of customers, such as Department Store Number 2 in the 5th Precinct? And why was it that cadres and personnel of Hanoi's commerce sector who have many years of experience in the business were able to help establish these models when transferred to jobs in Ho Chi Minh City? Thus, what was holding Hanoi back? Did the fault lie with personnel or with the system? The adoption of the resolution of the 6th Party Plenum came like a breath of fresh air to the Hanoi commerce sector. The resolution provided an opportunity to apply ideas that had long been in the making about ways to do business in a more dynamic, bolder and more effective manner, and enabled these ideas, under the direct guidance of the city party committee, to gain quick support among the many related sectors.

From Small Purchases, a Large Supply

The new approach taken by Hanoi to create sources of goods--which is the factor of decisive significance--is that it has begun to boldly invest capital

in the procurement of the raw materials needed to establish ties in production with industrial and handicraft installations with a view toward making full use of local equipment capacity and technology. The city currently has nearly 300 large and small enterprises, the majority of which are central enterprises, and nearly 440 production installations managed by small industry and handicraft cooperatives, which only use about 60 to 70 percent of their equipment capacity each day. In terms of its central enterprises, Hanoi has merely been performing work under contracts for many years. Recently, through capital acquired on its own, Hanoi has been importing additional raw materials, supplies and fuel to establish ties with a number of factories producing such products as soap, electro-mechanical products, lightbulbs-thermos bottles and so forth in order to produce additional goods. Some installations have recently been able to increase their output. For example, the Thang Long Knitting Federation has produced 14,000 additional sweaters; the Hanoi Glass Enterprise has introduced 14 new products; the Ham Rong Plastics Enterprise has produced 500,000 plastic bowls for exportation, etc.

The procurement of industrial goods, agricultural products, food products and so forth by socialist commerce, even in the smallest of quantities, is another new approach. These products are brought into the city by individuals on their way to work or to visit friends or relatives or they are brought in to be sold so that other necessary items can be purchased. According to statistics, more than 80,000 persons pass through the four wards of the inner city each day. Among these tens of thousands of persons are more than a few persons who bring goods that they must sell, such as a few meters of cloth, a few boxes of medicine and so forth that relatives or friends working overseas have sent to them as gifts but they do not need or a couple of chickens, a dozen eggs, a basket of green vegetables and so forth that they themselves produced. For many years, these goods, which amount to a considerable quantity, have been bought and resold by private merchants and have been the source of their livelihood. Now, state-operated and collective commerce within a number of wards, subwards and stores have begun to buy these small quantities of miscellaneous goods at negotiated prices. These small purchases have combined to form a large source of goods. At the Bac Qua Market, there have been days when state-operated commerce has purchased hundreds of tons of vegetables, fruit, chickens and eggs, even silkworm chrysalises, field eels and *Ophiocephalus ostriatus*. Among the persons selling these goods are nearly 300 persons who spent many years travelling around the districts in the outskirts of Hanoi and the provinces of Hai Hung, Ha Bac and Vinh Phu on bicycles and pack horses to gather up vegetables, fruit and other food products to bring back to sell to private merchants. After selling 5 dozen duck eggs to a procurement team, a farmer from Cam Giang District in Hai Hung Province said to us: "The opening of these procurement counters by state-operated commerce serves the interests of both buyers and sellers. Buyers obtain additional goods with which to serve workers and civil servants. Sellers gain peace of mind because they do not have to worry about being gouged by private merchants. Because private merchants are arrogant and force you to accept low prices, I was once unable to find a market for some vegetables and fruit that I had brought in to sell and had to beg in the streets for 2 or 3 days before I could return home."

The customers in Hanoi also support state commerce buying back ration coupons for food products, kerosene and cloth from persons who do not use them. Because, some families prefer fish to pork, some prefer soysauce to fish sauce, some prefer thick, durable cloth to thin, fine cloth or vice versa. And, there are also persons who must spend many days far away from the city on job assignments and whose ration coupons will expire by the time they return. Buying back ration coupons is another temporary measure that has helped to regulate daily consumer tastes and, in particular, prevent "black marketeers" from using ration coupons to disrupt the market. Some days, the state stores in the Dong Xuan Market buy the equivalent of more than 2 tons of fish, bean curd, fish sauce and pork in ration coupons. Thus, a corresponding quantity of goods need not be sold at the Dong Xuan Market and can be sold at places where there are shortages or sold at commercial prices. At the same time, this makes it possible to sell some essential goods at subsidized prices instead of commercial prices at places where there are still shortages. Goods are shifted between sale at subsidized prices and sale at commercial prices in a rapid, flexible and timely manner in accordance with the following principle: giving priority to goods sold at subsidized prices in order to insure that the correct quantity of goods is supplied to cadres, manual workers, civil servants and the armed forces on time and in exact accordance with the plan.

A Chain Reaction Effect

Together with properly taking delivery of the goods supplied by the central level in accordance with the plan and promptly transporting the goods obtained through joint businesses and production ties with 30 provinces and municipalities throughout the country, the above mentioned measures that have been taken to create local sources of goods have begun to help the Hanoi commerce sector to build the volume of its business. The Trang Tien Department Store originally projected that it would have some 250 new products to sell on a normal basis by 10 October 1984, the 30th anniversary of the liberation of the capital; however, it already had nearly 200 new products by the start of August. And, since the start of September, the store's daily sales have averaged roughly 3 million dong, which is almost as much as the Nguyen Hue Department Store in Ho Chi Minh City, the store with the highest sales in the country. During the first 9 months of this year, the Trang Tien Department Store purchased nearly 200 million dong in goods over and above its plan. During the past few months, the seven state stores and three marketing cooperatives at the Dong Xuan Market have exceeded their daily sales in previous months by 50 percent. For the entire commerce sector of Hanoi, the quantity of pork and beef bought and sold during the first 9 months of this year exceeded the amount bought and sold during the same period last year by more than 4,000 tons, with more pork being purchased than has been purchased in many years. The procurement of industrial goods exceeded the plan by 39 percent during the first 9 months of the year. The grain sector has also established 55 additional stores that both sell and buy grain and 8 stores that specialize in selling grain at business prices. Although it is newly established and only recently began operation, the Commercial Grain Corporation (modeled after the corporation of Miss Ba Thi in Ho Chi Minh City) has also procured a significant quantity of grain and helped to serve the needs of the city.

As the saying goes, "A profit can only be earned when one has products to sell." On the basis of establishing sources of ingredients, the Hanoi public food-beverage and service sector has also expanded its business. Merely providing daily meals for the tens of thousands of persons who come into the city, who include thousands of persons who come to visit or care for relatives at the more than 20 leading hospitals of the country that are located in the capital, requires a considerable amount of grain and food products. During the first 8 months of the year, the public food-beverage and service management sector completed from 60 to 70 percent of its plan for the year on the sale of such products as cakes and candies, soft noodles, noodles and beef, ice cream on a stick and ice cream in a glass. It completed from 60 to 68 percent of its plan for the year on revenue from haircutting, laundering, dyeing and other services. On the sidewalk in front of some stores, including department stores, counters have appeared selling cakes, candies, special dishes, noodles with rare beef, sausage, lean meat pies, pate, meat rolls and pork pies being sold by state-operated commerce. Sales persons have also begun to do more to please customers. While opening additional, convenient sales points, an effort has been made to dominate the dimension of time by being open for business from early in the morning until late at night. At some food stores that sell their products at commercial prices, many packages of different sizes have appeared. For example, MSG comes in 5 dong, 10 dong and 20 dong packages. Fresh beef counters no longer simply lay their beef out on the counter for sale, rather, they hang up entire sides of beef from which the piece selected by the customer is cut. Seasonings are also sold for customers who might need them.

The changes described above have also made it possible to intensify the management of the market. Each day, the market management committees of a number of corporations and product sectors and the entire city promptly set uniform prices for goods purchased at negotiated prices and goods sold at commercial prices. At the Dong Xuan, Bac Qua, Mo, Yen Vien, Cua Nam and other markets, the number of black market operators and private merchants, who have long disrupted the market at these places, has gradually declined since the socialist commerce sector set up points to buy vegetables, fruit, food products and industrial goods from persons entering the city through one of its five gates and buy back unused ration coupons from cadres, manual workers and their dependents. Some of these black market operators and private merchants have begun working under contract for handicraft production installations; however, some are quietly waiting to see if state commerce will fail to "follow through" as it has on previous occasions.

Although the above mentioned changes that have occurred on the distribution and circulation front within Hanoi have not been strong, uniform or widespread, they are a step worth noticing. The initial results are that prices have been kept from changing much on the market and the people have been given the confidence that socialist commerce can do even better. It is the hope of the citizens of Hanoi that the finance, banking, market management, transportation and other sectors and the commerce sector itself coordinate more closely and take more determined steps to correct the inertia and conservative thinking that exist so that these initial changes become stronger, thereby truly helping to restore socialist order on the capital's market.

AGRICULTURE

TAY NINH AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION PROBLEMS, TARGETS DISCUSSED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 30 Aug 84 p 2

[Article by Dang Van Thuong, the secretary of the Tay Ninh Provincial VCP Committee: "Tay Ning Makes an Effort to Solve the Grain Problem and Expand Agriculture In All Aspects"]

[Text] Tay Ninh is a province that has an important strategic position along the southwestern border of our country. It has an area of 4,029 square km and a population of 717,193 people. After the south was completely liberated, Tay Ninh became involved in a new struggle to resist Pol Pot, the lackey of the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists, and defend the border of the fatherland. This border war resulted in Tay Ning losing more than 10,000 hectares of rice and subsidiary food crops, and hundreds of thousands of people had to be evacuated. Thus, Tay Ninh really began building socialism only in the last 5 years.

Tay Ninh has much land, but there are only about 100,000 hectares of land for crop cultivation. The material base is poor, and it suffered great destruction during the war. In the first years, Tay Ninh did not produce enough food. One year, the state had to send 35,000 tons of grain in order to help feed the cadres and people in the province. If efforts had not been concentrated on stepping up agricultural production and resolutely solving the grain problem, it would not have been possible to form a base to carry out the socialist construction tasks entrusted to the province. Because of this, under the light of the resolution of the Fifth National Party Congress and the resolutions of the Central Committee, the party organization and people of Tay Ninh resolved to step up agricultural production, the heart of which was grain production. The target was to become self-sufficient in grain as quickly as possible, make progress toward making contributions to the state and create favorable conditions for carrying out the other strategic tasks.

The farming area was not large and the arable land was not fertile and so Tay Ninh had to concentrate its efforts on intensive cultivation and multicropping. From having only several thousand hectares of winter-spring and summer-autumn rice, by 1983, the entire province had almost 30,000 hectares of two-crop rice. The yearly average rice yield rose from 1.8 tons to 2.17 tons per hectare, and yields in some places reached 5 to 6 tons per hectare. In 1983, the rains were late, and the weather during the

summer-autumn season was unusual. Many people were very worried that they would lose the crop. Facing this situation, the province encouraged the peasants to use direct-sowing and (dry-thinning) methods. In just 20 days, the peasants planted 13,968 hectares in summer-autumn rice, exceeding the planned target for area by 9 percent. And that season, the yield reached 2.2 tons per hectare. From these results, Tay Ninh learned a very practical lesson, that is, to be bold in using the progressive techniques and to react quickly in guiding agricultural production. Because the yields were good, the gross production of grain increased 3.7 percent as compared with 1982, with the increase for rice being 9 percent. The per capital average for grain was 306 kg, and 57,000 tons were mobilized for the state, which exceeded the planned quota by 15 percent. Where it had previously suffered shortages, Tay Ninh now had adequate food and exceeded the quotas in making compulsory deliveries of grain to the state.

Besides rice, Tay Ninh is growing subsidiary food crops and other industrial crops, which is contributing to solving the grain and food problem and producing raw materials for the processing industry and for exports. Tay Ninh has 12,000 hectares of manioc that yield 100,000 tons of starch. The sugarcane area has expanded to more than 100,000 hectares and produce 400,000 tons of sugarcane. There are 13,000 hectares planted in peanuts, and the average yield is 1 ton per hectare. Tay Ninh has 6,000 hectares of rubber trees. Latex and other products with a high export value are being extracted. Because grain production has expanded, animal husbandry has expanded, too. As compared with 1982, the number of hogs has increased 10 percent and the number of cattle has increased 2 percent.

After many years of destructive war, the forest resources in Tay Ninh have been greatly diminished. Since liberation, many trees have been felled and because of this, there is very little timber left in the forests. Facing this situation, the province has put forth the urgent task of protecting the forests and planting new forests. In 1983 alone, the entire province planted 204 hectares in timber-producing trees and 202 hectares in special-product trees. More than 1 million dispersed trees were planted. Forest protection has been stressed, and the number of forest fires has declined.

In order to create favorable conditions for expanding agricultural production, Tay Ninh is promoting a water conservancy movement, particularly the construction of canals and ditches. The Dau Tieng reservoir is a project of great importance to the lives of the people in the province. In just 9 months in 1983, 107,000 people participated in working on the labor project, excavating and emplacing 1.8 million cubic meters of earth. Water conservancy has become a real mass movement and a new labor school of the youths in building the new socialist people.

Along with expanding production, socialist transformation has also been promoted. The realities in Tay Ninh show that the ardent hope of all classes of laboring people is to have the revolution bring land and to follow the party socialism. Thus, the party committee echelons have given much attention to socialist transformation of agriculture. To date, Tay Ninh has virtually completed land reform. A total of 899 agricultural production

collectives and 12 cooperatives have been established and 33 percent of the area and 39.8 percent of the peasants are engaged in collective production.

However, Tay Ninh still has many remaining weaknesses. Although agricultural production has expanded, the full potential has not been exploited and the distribution of laborers and the use of production materials is not rational. Although much progress has been made in reforming agriculture, things are still slow as compared with the requirements. There are still a number of passive aspects in economic management and in circulation and distribution. The leadership and guidance of a number of sectors lacks uniformity, and the integrated strength of the localities has not been manifested. Based on Tay Ninh's experiences, we can say that above all, a good job must be done in solidifying and building the party, starting at the primary level. The party organizations must constantly be purified and strengthened. Party building must be the center of political, ideological and organizational work. The party organizations must thoroughly understand the resolutions of the VCP Central Committee. Based on the real situation in their own localities, they must put forth specific key tasks. Determining the strategic tasks correctly requires that the party organization collectives have real solidarity, be democratic, follow the mass movements, emphasize responsibility in making plans and clearly understand each strength in order to display the weaknesses so that they can be overcome. While capital is still limited, the existing capital must be concentrated on the strategic tasks, the work done must have economic results and living conditions must be constantly improved. We must rely on the people, manifest democracy and, at the same time, maintain the dictatorship of the proletariat, increase vigilance, be prepared to smash enemies who oppose socialism, maintain security and national defense and protect the borders of the fatherland.

In 1984, Tay Ninh is continuing to exploit the potential concerning arable land, laborers and occupations. It is expanding agricultural production in all aspects and giving attention to grain and export industrial crops. It is striving to have 100,000 hectares of three-crop, intensively cultivated rice, of which 22,000 hectares is high-yield rice, with a yield of at least 3 tons per crop. The targets are to have gross production of grain reach 300,000 tons and to mobilize 60,000 tons for the state, to plant 14,000 hectares in peanuts in order to have 17,700 tons for export, to plant 14,000 hectares in sugarcane so that gross production of sugarcane reaches 759,000 tons, to concentrate investments on 6,000 hectares of high-yield sugarcane in Tan Bien and Duong Minh Chau districts and process 30,000 to 35,000 tons of sugar of various types, to increase the manioc area to 15,000 hectares in order to have yields of 150,000 tons to produce raw materials for industry and export, to give good attention to the existing rubber area and plant another 1,000 to 2,000 hectares, and to launch the people in planting cashews and coconuts in order to have many products for export.

Also this year, Tay Ninh is promoting an agricultural cooperativization movement and striving to engage 60 percent of the peasant households and 50 percent of the farming area in collective production. It is striving to virtually complete agricultural cooperativization by 1985. As for forestry,

[the targets are] to plant 500 hectares of concentrated forests, promote a movement to have the people plant trees and obtain lumber and protect the forests and environment, to complete the work of turning over management of the land and forests to the districts, villages and cooperatives in accord with the state's policies and procedures, and to implement the agro-forestry formula. An effort must be made to expand industry and artisan industry and handicrafts, to step up construction on and satisfactorily organize and manage the production installation that process cane sugar, tapioca, rubber and building materials and that produce consumer goods, and to reserve one-third of the labor time during the year to produce export products. An effort must be made to have the total value of purchase of commodities and agricultural products reach 1.8 billion dong, with the total value of the products turned over to the central echelon being 530 million dong. The socialist commercial system must strive to take control of the markets, expand the national commercial network and network of marketing cooperatives to the subwards and villages and improve purchasing formulas and organization. We are guiding the echelons and sectors in concentrating on building things and decentralizing to the districts. We are solidifying the party organizations from the bases and striving to build strong party organizations and strong districts. We are continuing to exploit the successes already scored on the security and national defense fronts.

With a tradition of diligent labor and resolute revolutionary struggle and with great confidence in the leadership of the VCP Central Committee, the party organization and people of Tay Ninh are making an effort to successfully carry out the task of producing grain, food products and agricultural products for consumption and export and hit the socioeconomic targets for 1984 and the following years.

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AGRICULTURE

IMPROVEMENT IN GRASSROOTS AGRICULTURAL PLANNING DISCUSSED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 31 Aug 84 p 1

[Editorial: "Quality of Agricultural Planning"]

[Text] Cooperatives and production collectives are basic units of socialist collective agriculture. The principal production means including land and material-technical bases coupled with labor constitute a vast potential and a precious capital source which are inherent in each and every production installation and which can be rationally exploited to produce great wealth for society. The new production relationships and the system of party leadership, state management and people's ownership create conditions for each collective economic unit to formulate and implement a comprehensive socioeconomic development plan. Once passed by the cooperative members' congress, such a plan will become a managerial tool to promote production development, to ensure the attainment of socioeconomic targets and to maintain a harmonious relationship between the state, collective and laborer's interests.

The resolution of the Sixth Party Central Committee Plenum has pointed out the need for the new economic management mechanism to consider planning to be the central task and to link it with economic accounting and socialist undertaking. In view of the need to improve management, the quality of planning by collective agricultural economic units must be further improved. The building of an economic structure and the development of proportional aspects of any plan require that production installations use the existing sources of labor, land, capital and material bases to the largest extent and with the greatest economic effect and that they apply technical advances in production and conduct joint ventures and form economic alliances with other production units and economic components in order to fulfill the goal of overall economic development. Right now, each installation must bring its own strong points into play, develop various handicrafts, fully use the source of labor to exploit land, vigorously shift to production based on specialization and intensive cultivation to achieve high productivity and great economic effect and try to make the activities of all production and business sectors profitable. With a deeper understanding that grain production is a battlefield of primary importance, each installation must try to produce enough grain for its own use and for contribution to society.

gradually advance and set aside a reserve for use as a key factor in developing animal husbandry, and develop agriculture comprehensively, strongly and steadily. Right at the beginning, the production plan must be closely coordinated with the distribution plan.

Each installation must display a higher spirit of self-reliance for self-improvement instead of waiting for and relying on outside help and must take the initiative to achieve harmony between various aspects of the plan. In estimating the material requirements of production, the norm of rational use [of materials] for each different target must be taken into consideration. Each production installation must exploit materials from four potential sources to the greatest advantage while considering the locally produced materials important. While trying to obtain sufficient materials for immediate production, it is necessary to have a material reserve to take the initiative in production and business. The right to collective ownership and the system of responsibility for planning must be respected and applied. On the basis of fulfilling the legal plan norms and the two-way contract with the state, production installations are entitled to expand their production and business activities. The economic, technical and business service units of the state must respect the equality and collective rights of production installations and establish economic relations with them according to the mutual interest principle which must be embodied in the plan norms and materialized by two-way economic contracts. The principle of material incentive must be properly applied and associated with ideological education while the system of responsibility of the high level to the low one and of the low level to the high one must be further emphasized. Economic, technical and business service agencies operating in the district area must, together with production installation management cadres, correctly and satisfactorily fulfill their functions and duties in formulating and carrying out plans.

Based on the area delimitation by the district level, installations must have long-term (5 to 10-year) and short-term, yearly and seasonal socioeconomic development plans. The plan of each cooperative and production installation must be linked to the village and district plans and fully incorporated in the plans assigned to production units and teams. The plan of each production unit and team in a cooperative and collective must in turn be fully expressed in the plan to establish product contracts with laboring groups and individual laborers.

Along with planning, other managerial aspects such as production, labor and financial administration in each installation must also be strengthened and improved in order to positively contribute to improving the planning task and to ensure the conduct of socialist business activities.

Districts have the duty to distribute the production forces within their own territories and to create favorable conditions for installations to develop economy comprehensively and fulfill plans satisfactorily. Since each

production installation is an economic unit closely associated with the district level, only if this installation is strong can the district become strong and vice versa. Therefore, it is necessary to intensively build the district level while improving grassroots management--primarily improving the quality of the installations' planning task--, to mobilize the aggregate strength of each installation and that of each laborer and to exploit local potentials to the fullest in order to produce more wealth for the society.

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AGRICULTURE

FAIRLY GOOD SUMMER-FALL RICE CROP, 10TH-MONTH CROP CROPPY

Hanoi: NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 31 Aug 84 pp 1, 4.

[Text] The southern provinces are urgently harvesting the summer-fall rice crop. According to initial estimates, the early summer-fall rice output is fairly high in a number of localities such as Ho Chi Minh City with 36 quintals, Tien Giang with 40 quintals, Long An with 34 quintals, Hau Giang with 41 quintals, Dong Thap with 39 quintals and Thuan Hai with 38 quintals per hectare. By working more urgently than last year, the southern provinces have harvested this year's summer-fall rice crop on about 92 percent of the total cultivated area. Nevertheless, because the Mekong River's water level rises higher and earlier than in the previous years and in order to guard against the possibility of heavy rains, the southern provinces are concentrating on accelerating the summer-fall rice harvest tempo especially in Ho Chi Minh City and Phu Khanh and Ban Tre Provinces which are localities having harvested only about 10 to 13 percent of their cultivated acreage. In North Vietnam, the summer-fall rice crop has blossomed belatedly. Binh Tri Thuan Province has harvested the summer-fall rice crop in only a few localities.

Generally speaking, the sowing and transplanting of the 10th-month rice crop are still being performed slowly. As of 23 August, the northern provinces have carried out sowing and transplanting on 1,295,438 hectares representing 100.8 percent of the corresponding area in the same period last year but fulfilling only 98.4 percent of the plan norm [for this year]. The southern provinces have performed sowing and transplanting on 1,387,516 hectares, which is equivalent to 97.7 percent of the corresponding area in the same period last year but fulfilling only 86.1 percent of the plan norm. Though the 10th-month sowing and transplanting season in the southern provinces will draw to a close only by the end of October, many of these provinces are actively urging a quick sowing and transplanting tempo. The overall situation of the area where the 10th-month rice has been sown and transplanted is fairly good but harmful insects, especially army worms, are propagating rather strongly in certain localities. The post-infected area is 440,000 hectares including 190,000 hectares in the northern provinces and 110,000 hectares in the southern zone—respectively a 1.8- and fourfold increase over the same period last year. Weeding and exterminating weeds and tending the rice plants at the present time are particularly grave and

tending the riceplants at the present time are measures having a decisive effect on the productivity and output of the 10th-month rice crop. To overcome the shortage and belated supply of chemical insecticides, many localities have actively resorted to manual methods and measures such as using lamps to trap butterflies, mobilizing many laborers to cut off pest-infested rice leaves in order to destroy eggs and limit the insects' propagation, and applying more fertilizers to rice areas heavily damaged by insects. Within only a short period of time, the districts of Kim Son (Ha Nam Ninh) and Ninh Thanh (Hai Hung) have caught several tons of army weevils and have intensively tended and fertilized riceplants to prevent the area harvest's development by the end of the cultivation season.

Also as of 15 August, the area cultivated with summer-fall subsidiary and industrial crops shows a rather substantial increase over that in the same period last year, especially in the southern provinces and mainly concerning industrial crops, but, generally speaking, is still much lower than the plan norm. The corn area has reached only 72.4 percent of the plan norm, followed by the sweet potato area with 32 percent, the soybean area with 48.1 percent, the peanut area with 47.1 percent and the sugarcane area with 93.7 percent of the plan norm. While trying to harvest the summer-fall rice crop quickly and completely and while tending and protecting the 10th-month rice crop, all localities are concentrating their work force on sowing and growing summer-fall subsidiary food crops and preparing all material conditions for the forthcoming winter-spring cultivation season.

AGRICULTURE

TIEN GIANG, SONG BE PROVINCES PROMOTE AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Sep 84 pp 1, 4

[VNA News Release: "Tien Giang Province Basically Completes Agricultural Cooperativization over Entire Province; Song Be Province Develops Additional 28 Production Collectives, 11 Agricultural Cooperatives"]

[Text] Tien Giang has to the present time established 52 cooperatives and 2,679 production collectives to basically complete agricultural cooperativization of the entire province. The districts of Cai Be, Cai Lay, Go Cong Dong and Go Cong Tay and the city of My Tho have had from 92.5 to 100 percent of the land area and farm population enter collective work. The districts of Chau Thanh and Cho Gao recently achieved 77 to 86 percent.

The standing committees of the Provincial Party Committee and the Provincial People's Committee have concentrated leadership, overcome difficulties in production and the transformation task, and improved the contract formula for old cooperatives and production collectives while simultaneously maintaining close contact with product contracting from the very inception of the campaign to build new cooperatives and production collectives. The primary level units have continued to promote land regulation and reallocation to recover 120,000 hectares for allocation to 133,000 landless farmers while simultaneously encouraging the reallocation of land in excess of the average homestead level now belonging to 2,280 middle peasants to 2,200 farmers with little or no land.

Tien Giang emphasizes strengthening and raising the quality of cooperatives and production collectives, resolutely disciplining corrupt and degenerate cadres and suppressing bad elements destroying the movement while at the same time actively providing elementary and advanced training for the ranks of full-time cadres in the cooperativization movement. The province has trained more than 427,000 full-time cadres of all types to serve in agricultural transformation and reorganization at the primary level. Thanks to active and firm steps, the agricultural cooperativization movement in Tien Giang Province is strong both in quantity and in quality. In recent inspections, the entire province had 66.7 percent of the cooperatives and 40 percent of the production collectives attain the advanced and good levels while the majority of the remainder were average. During the 10th-month and 1983-1984 winter-spring crops, 95 percent of the farmers exceeded contract levels and the average man-day value throughout the province reached 12 to 15 kilograms of paddy per man-day. Collectives 1 in Tien Tri, 4 in An Thai Trung, 12 in My Duc Tay and 26 and 27 in Hoi Cu (of Cai Be District), and collectives 30 and 40 in Thanh Loc (of Cai Lay District)

achieved more than 20 kilograms of paddy per man-day. At the present time, the average annual farm yield throughout Tien Giang Province is 68.03 quintals per hectare, an increase of 12 percent over last year. This includes the collective area with 73 quintals per hectare. The districts of Cai Be and Cai Lay attained 9 to 10.5 tons per hectare. The province has also increased the high-yield rice area from 100,000 hectares last year to 420,000 hectares this year. Many primary level units have attained initial good results in combining the operations of four types of cooperatives; agricultural, small industry and handicrafts, marketing and credit.

Since the beginning of this year, Song Be Province has developed an additional 28 production collectives and 11 agricultural cooperatives, raising the total throughout the province to 265 collectives and 144 cooperatives. The entire province has also to the present time 790 production solidarity teams. Thus, the province has more than 27,983 farmers and 24,635 hectares of land under collective production, accounting for more than 36 percent of the farmers and 36.5 percent of the cultivated land throughout the province. The two districts of Phuoc Long and Loc Ninh have basically completed the introduction of farmers to collective work with 85 to 99 percent involved in collective production.

The districts and towns of the south, especially the recent two districts of Ben Cat and Tan Uyen, have made many changes in the agricultural cooperativization movement.

Tan Uyen District has introduced 42.5 percent of the farmers to collective work with 32 percent of the cultivated land.

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AGRICULTURE

LE VAN LUONG SPEECH AT HANOI CONGRESS OF COLLECTIVE FARMERS

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 8 Sep 84 pp 1, 4

[Speech by Le Van Luong: "The Hanoi Federation of Collective Farmers Must Become a Strong Organization of Collective Ownership and Make Practical Contributions to the Process of Developing Agriculture and Building the New Countryside"]

[Text] Dear Presiding Officers,

Dear Delegates,

Today, It is my great pleasure to attend your congress, to convey to you the heartfelt congratulations of the Hanoi Municipal Party Committee and to share in your joy over the growth of the class of collective farmers in the outskirts of the city in recent years, all in the hope that this congress will bring a new vitality to the farmers' movement of our capital through practical programs of action and help to bring about new, profound and comprehensive changes within the agriculture and countryside of our beloved capital.

Dear Comrades,

This second congress of yours is being held at a time in history that is meaningful to our capital in many ways. Following more than 1 year of extensive efforts by the party, armed forces and people of the city in keeping with the guidelines of the Political Bureau resolution on the work of the capital and the resolution of the 9th Party Organization Congress, efforts that have brought about socio-economic changes, we are now engaged in the action program to implement the resolution of the 6th Party Plenum and launching a spirited emulation movement to record achievements in celebration of the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the capital Hanoi, complete the 1984 state plan and make all the preparations necessary for us to advance to new victories in 1985.

Since your first congress 5 years ago, our city has overcome countless difficulties and moved steadily forward in order to meet the four socio-economic targets and build and defend the capital in every respect. Since then, we have witnessed countless important changes in agriculture, in the

countryside and within the class of collective farmers in the outskirts of the city.

With the concerned leadership and guidance of the Party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers, under the leadership and guidance of the municipal party committee, the municipal people's committee and the various party committee echelons and levels of government and with the support of the working class, the class of collective farmers in the outskirts of the city has made extraordinary efforts and worked hard to develop the new potentials in labor and arable land that emerged with the expansion of the city's outskirts and have won very exciting victories.

Agricultural production is developing. Grain output has increased continuously since 1980. In 1982 and 1983 (despite natural disasters during the 10th month seasons), grain output exceeded 380,000 tons, a 100,000 ton increase over 1980. Vegetable production has increased. Quantitative and qualitative changes have occurred in hog, buffalo and cattle production as well as pisciculture. The production of industrial and export crops have developed strongly in recent years, especially the production of tobacco and peanuts. More and more models of intensive cultivation in crop and livestock production have emerged. Three districts have achieved average rice yields of 7 to 8 tons per hectare per year and many cooperatives have achieved average yields of 9 to 10 tons per hectare per year. Three districts have achieved average corn yields of 2 to 3 tons per hectare. One district has achieved a tobacco yield in excess of 1 ton per hectare. During the recent 5th month-spring season, despite the need for strenuous efforts in the face of harsh weather and heavy pest infestations, three districts still recorded rice yields of 43 to 50 quintals per hectare, 23 cooperatives exceeded 5 tons per hectare, 8 cooperatives that practice the intensive cultivation of corn recorded a yield of 36 quintals per hectare...

Socialist production relations have been further strengthened and improved. Since the implementation of Party Secretariat Directive 100 and the emergence of the new form of contracts, the class of collective farmers has had strong incentive to work, effectively develop the potentials that lie in intensive cultivation and multicropping, step up livestock production and expand the trade sector. The number of cooperatives that are good or excellent in one or many areas has been steadily increasing and the number of weak, deficient cooperatives has been gradually declining.

The lives of farmers and the physical appearance of their villages and hamlets are changing. Generally speaking, except in the aftermath of severe natural disasters and at places that are still encountering very many difficulties, our farmers are well fed. About 80 percent of farm families have permanently constructed houses or brick houses with tile roofs. The children of our farmers receive, at the very least, a basic general school education. Some 30 percent receive a middle school education. Attention is also being paid to the development of cultural activities, public health, education and physical culture-sports in the outskirts of the city. At some places where conditions are more favorable, the lives of farmers are better: they have bicycles, radios, electric lighting and all the household conveniences available. Life

within the villages and hamlets in the outskirts of the city is becoming increasingly comfortable, happy and wholesome.

The contributions made by collective farmers to the state have also greatly increased. Compared to a few years ago, the amount of grain mobilized for the state has doubled. Increasingly large amounts of green vegetables, pork and other agricultural and food products are being sent into the city. The quantity of industrial crops, especially tobacco, sold to the state has doubled compared to 2 years ago. We have begun to develop and are trying to further develop the production of exported agricultural products in order to import products needed for production. Together with these achievements, the collective farmers in the outskirts of the city have actively contributed to the new economic fund and encouraged families to go establish new homes for themselves. In 1978, Hanoi's new economic zone in Lam Dong Province had only 60 families; by 1983, it has 3,140 families with 15,707 persons, 8,582 of whom are laborers.

We are exceedingly happy over these positive changes. Above everything else, they represent a tremendous achievement on the part of the class of collective farmers. With our country, our capital still facing difficulties on many sides, our class of farmers has upheld their tradition of love for the country, love for socialism, displayed a high sense of collective ownership, displayed self-reliance and the spirit of "loving others as you love yourself," "helping the less fortunate" and the young helping the old, overcome the difficulties caused by shortages of supplies and harsh weather and advanced agricultural production to new levels with each successive year. The emulation movement among farmers is developing in depth. The movement to practice intensive cultivation and achieve high yields, build water conservancy projects and eradicate and control pests have attracted millions of farmers, who are moving forward to become the masters of their fields, the masters of science and technology and achieving large results.

Once again, on behalf of the municipal party committee, I warmly congratulate the collective farmers of the outskirts of the city for the achievements they have recorded.

Of course, I am firmly confident that the delegates to this congress as well as farmers, in general, understand that each step forward by agriculture, each change in the countryside is closely tied to the support provided by the working class, by industry and is inseparable from the leadership and guidance provided by the various party committee echelons and levels of government. As you know, although the economy of our country, our capital is still seriously imbalanced in many respects, although cadres, manual workers, civil servants and the armed forces continue to encounter many difficulties and shortages in their daily lives and although we must contend with the wide-ranging war of sabotage being waged by the imperialists and the Beijing expansionists, our party and state are still fully concerned with agriculture and continue to have the most affectionate feelings for our farmers. On this occasion, I would like to present a few figures to illustrate this. As you know, foreign currency must be used to purchase the majority of our chemical fertilizers. The state has been importing and supplying fertilizer to Hanoi once every 6 months. In 1981, nearly 40 percent more nitrogen fertilizer was supplied than

in previous years. In 1983, twice as much was supplied as in 1981. Last year, the city spent nearly 1 million rubles-dollars to import nearly 10,000 tons of fertilizer to establish reserve stockpiles in order to supply fertilizer to farmers on time. Each year, the state supplies to agriculture more than 30 million kwh of electricity to provide for irrigation and drainage and meets a number of needs in the countryside and a portion of the goods, supplies and building materials available is provided to support agriculture. During the past few years, the investment capital provided by the city for agriculture has increased significantly, rising to nearly 100 million dong in 1984. The forces of dozens of scientific research institutes and colleges and hundreds of scientific-technical cadres have been mobilized to introduce technological advances in agricultural production, etc.

However, the leadership and guidance of agriculture by the municipal party committee, the municipal people's committee and the various party committee echelons and levels of government are still marked by many shortcomings and weaknesses. While preparing for your congress, you offered many very good and sincere criticisms. We will give them serious study in order to promptly rectify these shortcomings and weaknesses. Of course, some of these are shortcomings on the city's part that must be immediately corrected and some are weaknesses beyond our control that can only be corrected gradually.

Dear Comrades,

The expanded outskirts of Hanoi, which are as large as a province in the Red River Delta, now have 100,000 hectares of farmland, 40,000 hectares of land in hillside forests, 10,000 hectares of water surface and 500,000 laborers plus material and technical bases that have been under construction for 30 years and large, diverse potentials. Hanoi's agriculture has been assigned a very difficult but glorious task in serving the needs of the city, the targets of which are of very pressing importance.

The 9th Congress of the city party organization stated: "The outskirts of the city must be developed into an advanced agricultural area, into a food belt supplying vegetables, fruit, meat, fish, eggs and all the grain needed for farmers and a large portion of the grain needed for the city as well as some industrial and export crops."

Agriculture must move forward to meet the targets for 1985 and prepare itself to meet higher targets during the final years of this decade.

Grain production is the main production sector in the city's outskirts. In 1985, by practicing intensive cultivation on existing rice fields, a yield of 7 tons per hectare per year must be achieved, with yields within high yield areas being raised to 8-10 tons per hectare per year. Investments must be focused on increasing the production of corn and raising yields to 2.5-3 tons per hectare, thereby laying the groundwork for the development of industrial-style livestock production.

Intensive cultivation must be practiced with vegetables and other food crops, especially soybeans, in order to provide a full supply of green vegetables to the city and meet more of the people's need for protein.

There must be close coordination among the state-operated, collective and household economies in order to make livestock production a main sector and develop it in a strong, steady and highly efficient manner that encompasses hogs, buffalo, cattle, commercial chickens, the other types of poultry and fish.

We must quickly and strongly develop the production of industrial and export crops, especially tobacco, peanuts and fresh and processed vegetables and fruit in order to create additional sources of capital for investments and earn additional foreign currency with which to import fertilizer, pesticides, veterinary medicines, raw materials and goods to support the production and daily lives of farmers.

We must carry out the program to cover barren hills with vegetation in a way that coordinates agriculture and forestry and promote the movement to have the people plant trees and the movement to establish "Uncle Ho fruit orchards."

The agricultural, marketing and credit cooperatives in the countryside must be strengthened. Within the next few years, we must bring ourselves to the point where there are no longer any weak and deficient cooperatives. The new contract system within agricultural cooperatives must be perfected. Agricultural cooperatives must practice intensive cultivation, operate a full-scale business and expand the trade sector in coordination with strongly developing the household economy in order to create a large supply of products and goods, accumulate capital for the development of cooperatives and raise the standard of living of farmers.

We must improve the lives of farmers and accelerate the building of the new countryside. During the next few years, we must accelerate production and practice frugality to insure that the farmers of all areas are well fed and that grain reserves are established where possible. We must resolve the problem of cloth for the people so that the supply of cloth per capita reaches 4 meters per year within the next few years. The state must provide the building materials needed by those farmers who are able to build houses with tile roofs. The network of public welfare and cultural projects must be urgently constructed so that the rural outskirts of the city have increasingly attractive and imposing schools, hospitals, clubs, cultural centers and wired radio networks and the people there have good educational, health care and recreational facilities.

We must fully concern ourselves with caring for the elderly, children, wounded veterans and the families of war dead and looking after the living conditions of the ethnic minorities and the people who live in the hills.

In order to meet the socio-economic objectives presented above, we must, through the "state and the people working together" movement and the "city, districts and installations sharing responsibility" movement, allocate capital for the construction of material-technical bases and infrastructure facilities within agriculture, especially water conservancy projects, power projects, communications-transportation projects, the seed production network, the crop protection network, the veterinary network and so forth.

In keeping with the policy that establishes agriculture as the front of foremost importance in the initial stage of the period of transition, establishes the district as a planning unit and increases the authority and responsibility of the district level, the 6th Plenum of the Party Central Committee decided to change and improve the management system and set forth policies that provide incentives for agriculture and balance the interests of the state and farmers.

The important changes that have been made in the management system of agricultural cooperatives are: the plan of the cooperative will be decided by the congress of cooperative members, thereby enabling the cooperative to exercise its right of collective ownership in the area of planning, and the state will guide cooperatives in the formulation of their plans through various leverage policies, the supply of technical materials, economic contracts and the establishment of economic ties and joint businesses. Of particular importance is that the legal norms assigned to the cooperatives, which will be contained in the economic contracts signed at the start of the season, will stipulate the quantity of products to be sold by the cooperative to the state, the quality and prices of which will be set forth in the economic contracts, and the material conditions (energy, supplies, raw materials, tractors and services) that will be supplied by the state to the cooperative, the quantity, quality and prices of which as well as the point of delivery, the delivery schedule and the amount of money to be provided in advance will also be stipulated in the contract. The state has also established the task of adjusting procurement prices in order to achieve a more positive response among cooperatives and farmers. Within the management system, cooperatives must continue to look for ways to provide incentive to cooperative members to work and take steps to mobilize management, technical and professional cadres to use their skills to support agriculture, support the cooperative and set guidelines for the establishment of a system for mobilizing the agriculture service agencies to support cooperatives better.

Under the new management system, our country's agriculture, in general, and agriculture in the outskirts of our city, in particular, will surely have new advantages in their favor for gradually advancing agriculture to large-scale socialist production, the living conditions of farmers will be improved, an increasingly large quantity of products and goods will be mobilized for the state, agricultural cooperatives will become increasingly solid and strong and better conditions will exist for bringing about strong and steady changes in the agricultural situation and the face of the countryside.

The Hanoi Federation of Collective Farmers must become a strong organization of collective ownership and make practical contributions to the development of the capital's agriculture and the building of its new countryside.

The federation must bring farmers together and educate them in the need to establish the alliance of workers and farmers, promote the three revolutions, develop agricultural production in every respect, advance agriculture one step closer to large-scale socialist production and build the new, socialist countryside, thereby making important contributions to socialist transformation and socialist construction within the capital.

The agriculture of Hanoi must become a model agriculture, a model of high yields through intensive cultivation, of an integrated business that yields high returns and of developing existing strengths in order to produce many products and goods for consumption and exportation. The outskirts of Hanoi must become model, rural socialist villages built by cooperatives and the people with some state support. The class of collective farmers in the outskirts of the city must become new farmers who stand as symbols of the spirit of unity and love for one another, who exercise collective ownership in the development of their cooperatives and villages, have close ties to the working class, fulfill their obligations to build and defend the fatherland and live a happy and wholesome life.

The federation of collective farmers is under the leadership of the various party committee echelons, receives assistance from the different levels of government and closely collaborates with the various mass organizations for the purpose of generating a broad and intense mass movement among farmers, one that yields concrete, practical returns.

The municipal party committee believes that, in view of their long-standing revolutionary tradition and the fact that they have been supporting the party, supporting the revolution for several decades, from the national, democratic revolution to the socialist revolution, our farmers in the outskirts of the city will grow and make worthy contributions to building and defending our beloved capital.

In the years ahead, the tasks that confront us are very large and we still face many difficulties; however, in view of the new and favorable conditions that exist now, we are very optimistic over the fine prospects for the capital's agriculture advancing to large-scale socialist production.

I wish you the very best of health.

I wish your congress fine success.

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CSO: 4209/26

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

DAC LAC PROVINCE ANNOUNCES NEW STUDENT SUBSIDIES

Hanoi NGUOI GIAO VIEN NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Oct 84 p 2

[Readers' Opinions column by Dang Dinh Luong, Department of Plans and Finances, the Ministry of Education: "Dac Lac Adopts a New Policy and Regulations Deserving of Attention"]

[Text] In the years ahead, Dac Lac Province will need several tens of thousands of scientific and technical cadres to support the province's economic, cultural and social development. In order to prepare a force of skilled cadres, the provincial people's committee decided to have the middle schools and level II general schools in Buon Ma Thuot City hold level II classes for the gifted in writing composition, mathematics and physics and level III classes for the gifted in writing composition, mathematics, physics and foreign languages. All students attending these classes received scholarships. Students who are members of an ethnic minority or children of families of war dead or veterans wounded in war receive the same room and board as the students at the Ama Trang Long Middle Level Boarding School. Students whose families are experiencing financial difficulties receive a 90 dong per month allowance while students whose families can afford to pay part of the expense of their schooling receive an allowance of 45 dong per month.

In addition, while awaiting the allocation by the state of new supplementary scholarships for students attending training schools, scholarships that are consistent with the present situation, the provincial people's committee has granted temporary subsidies to students who are attending formal schools for a period of 6 months or more. Eligible for these subsidies are:

--Persons living within the province who attend a vocational middle school, elementary school, specialized school, party school, mass organization school, administrative cadre school, trade training or technical worker school or the Ama Trang Long Middle Level Boarding School (these schools are under the management of the province).

--Persons living within the province but are sent by the province to attend schools of the central level or schools of neighboring provinces.

--Students residing outside the province but make a commitment to work in Dac Lac upon the completion of their studies.

The subsidy equals 100 percent of the current scholarship. In addition, the personal grain allotment has been raised from 15 to 17 kilograms per month.

Ethnic students who must borrow blankets and mosquito nets to use while attending school receive one set of clothing each year worth 500 dong. Students attending the Ama Trang Long Middle Level Boarding School are issued a pair of sandals to wear while at the school.

This subsidy goes into effect with the start of the 1984-1985 school year.

Dac Lac is one of the provinces that is experiencing many difficulties in balancing the province's annual budget; however, determined to quickly build the corps of scientific and technical cadres needed by the locality, the province boldly rearranged its 1984 provincial budget and allocated a relatively large amount of money to be used solely for training. We are delighted by these steps and have presented them in the hope that other provinces, especially the mountain provinces, will examine what Dac Lac has done and soon adopt incentive policies in order to quickly train a corps of scientific cadres for themselves.

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CSO: 4209/26

POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

MINISTER OF CULTURE ON NEW LIFESTYLE

Hanoi VAN HOA NGHE THUAT in Vietnamese Aug 84 pp 2-4

[Article by Nguyen Van Hieu, minister of culture: "Establishing the New Lifestyle"]

[Text] At present, public opinion is very concerned with negative phenomena, which are, in some respects, spreading.

At a time when the people of our entire country are making extensive efforts to win large victories in production and combat and we have recorded encouraging achievements, public opinion has become increasingly upset over theft of public property, wasteful extravagance, laziness, superstitious practices, improper behavior in public places...

As persons engaged in cultural work, we fully accept all the responsibility that is ours in the management of society. However, establishing the new lifestyle is an issue that pertains to each and every person, to every sector, to the government and the people as well, to the family and society.

In recent years, the cultural sector and many other social science sectors have held numerous symposiums on matters of theory and practice related to the socialist lifestyle. In the press and the mass media, in general, very many persons have voiced criticism, analyzed causes and proposed measures.

Some persons maintain that acts of negative behavior have developed because life is still difficult and this has led to the pessimistic thinking that it will be difficult to establish the new lifestyle as long as our economy is severely restricted by a system of small-scale production that gives rise to negative thinking and negative behavior every hour of every day.

In our opinion, the fact that our economy is not highly developed does pose difficulties to us in our effort to mold the new man and establish the new culture. Mention must also be made of the effect that the enemy has had, because, they have clearly intensified their attacks against us on the ideological and cultural front.

However, we still have firm confidence in the views expressed by the party, namely that "establishing the new culture and molding the new man are things that can and must be done gradually, be done one day at a time: in the present stage, both objective and subjective conditions permit us to begin to create a society that is beautiful in terms of its lifestyle and interpersonal relations, a society in which the working people feel that their lives are happy lives even though their material standard of living is not yet high"(the Political Report of the Party Central Committee at the 5th Congress).

In fact, over the past several years, efforts to establish the new lifestyle have yielded a number of good results throughout the country. Positive models of one aspect or another of the new lifestyle have emerged in all regions of the country, especially since the adoption of Party Secretariat Directive 214 on weddings, funerals, death anniversaries and festivals.

As regards weddings, many cooperatives in the North have drawn up agreements, the purpose of which is to insure that weddings are simple, inexpensive but joyous occasions. The model in this area is Tay Giang Village in Tien Hai District, Thai Binh Province. Since 1977, 715 weddings based on the new lifestyle have been held in the village, each of which has cost only 100 dong.

As regards funerals, the practice of holding funeral rights within the home of the deceased has greatly declined and the majority of burials occur within 24 hours of death and involve brief, simple ceremonies. Every village in Thuy Nguyen District, Haiphong, has a hearse.

As regards the molding of families of the new culture, this movement has been maintained at many places in the North and is developing in depth, as can be seen in Ngoc Long Village in Hai Hung Province, Hai Van Village in Ha Nam Ninh Province, Dien Lu Village in Thanh Hoa Province and so forth. In particular, Dien Lu, a mountain village inhabited by five ethnic minorities that has a rather comprehensive movement to establish the new lifestyle, completed the construction of the three required projects in 1978. There, 91 percent of the families have been recognized as families of the new culture. In the South, although this movement was only recently launched, it is being carried out well by many localities.

As regards combating superstitious practices and the establishment or transformation of holidays and festivals along lines that curb superstitious practices, enhance the fine traditions of the nation and provide for increased cultural, literary and art activities of a wholesome nature, many localities have achieved initial results. Some societies based purely on superstitious beliefs have been virtually abolished, such as the Phu Giay Society in Ha Nam Ninh Province and the Society of Le Van Duyet's Tomb in Ho Chi Minh City, and some societies, such as the Society of the Hung Temple in Vinh Phu Province, the Dong Da Society in Hanoi and the Society of the Keo Pagoda in Thai Binh Province, have assumed a much different character.

However, generally speaking, the number of model units has not increased much. Elements of superstitious practices are re-emerging at many places. Many superstitious practices are still of serious proportions.

It is our thinking that, in addition to objective causes, this situation is due to the fact that we have not made a strong, well coordinated or steady impact. Lax management by the various party committee echelons and levels of government is still widespread.

Clearly, at those places at which the party committee and the people's committee have approached the matter of combating negative phenomena and establishing the new lifestyle with determination, good results have been achieved. For example, according to the 10 February 1984 issue of NHAN DAN Newspaper, whereas a total of 11 million firecrackers were exploded during the 1983 Tet celebration in Ho Chi Minh City, in 1984, nearly ten times less were exploded. The reason for this was that the city people's committee banned the use of fireworks and firecrackers before the 30th and only allowed them to be set off during a period of 3 days.

In Hanoi this year, the government has been determined to clean up streets and maintain sanitation at public places, consequently, it has taken positive steps in this direction, such as issuing warnings, installing many more sewage lines, privies and so forth, as a result of which the situation has been improved.

Even in remote places where the general environment is characterized by much that is negative from the standpoint of lifestyle, such as the Mekong Delta, similar examples can be found: the Long Dien Dong C. Cooperative in Gia Rai District, Minh Hai Province, has removed the privies that were once on the river and constructed spacious roads and its members have adopted the civilized practice of arriving at meetings on time.

On the other hand, lax management continues to be a serious problem. Here, we will only relate a number of all too obvious practices.

Consider, for example, the illegal making of wine. Nowadays, it can be said that this is no longer "bootlegging" but actual public wine making! This is another widespread phenomenon in the Mekong Delta, a region that raises much rice and makes delicious "appetizers"! However, this phenomenon is not rare even at the doorstep to Hanoi. Recently, Voice of Vietnam Radio broadcast a very good investigative report on illegal wine making in Chuong My District. The Bua Market within Trung Hoa Village in Chuong My District is also known as the "wine market"; there, wine sellers sit in a long row. An average of roughly 2,000 liters of wine are sold each day. Within Trung Hoa Village, the most serious problem exists in Chi Ne Hamlet. During the days preceding Tet, 100 percent of the 426 households within the hamlet made illegal wine! Che Ne Hamlet alone annually uses about 500 tons of rice and 7,000 tons of fresh cassava to make wine. In 1983 and 1984, about 80,000 people in Chuong My District ran short of grain between harvests and the province had to loan the district 900 tons of grain. Ironically, this grain also aided the wine makers of Che Ne Hamlet in Trung Hoa Village! The investigative report also pointed out that the provincial and district governments have taken steps to combat this ill and have succeeded in gradually curbing it.

Another example can be found in lax management regarding superstitious practices. We have yet to see one legal document of any kind prohibiting the

production and sale of paper effigies; yet, in our opinion, this is a product of a superstitious nature and must be banned.

At present, persons practicing this trade are producing paper effigies of automobiles, televisions and even video cassettes costing thousands of dong apiece. It is regrettable that the various levels of government continue to tolerate the production and marketing operations of these persons. According to statistics compiled by the Hanoi Cultural Service, there are more than 200 "producers" of products of this type in the capital. Why are there still 200 households still practicing this trade? What perplexes us is that tax rates on "paper effigy" products are contained within public notice number 6 dated 15 April 1983 that accompanied the merchandise tax schedule appended to the Regulation dated 26 February 1983, thereby legitimatizing the production and sale of these superstitious goods!

In the draft of the Code of Criminal Law, Article 180 of the section on crimes deals with "the crime of illegally producing or selling wine." Should there not also be a clause on prohibiting the production and sale of superstitious goods?

In addition to lax management, we feel that it is also necessary to emphasize one other extremely important factor, namely, an exemplary attitude on the part of cadres and party members in combating negative phenomena and establishing the new lifestyle.

It is regrettable that some cadres and party members are not setting examples in these areas. Even in the above mentioned investigative report on the illegal production of wine, when the journalist asked the opinions of district leaders about interviewing producers themselves, he found out: "It was useless to ask them, they did not help me at all because all of the cadres and party members there are involved in this bootlegging!"

We do not want to paint a bleak picture of negative phenomena because, as mentioned above, we are confident that the new lifestyle can be established one step at a time.

However, this is a "long, complex and very difficult struggle."

As regards measures, none offers a miracle cure. We must continue to work as instructed by our party: "It is necessary to take measures that are well coordinated in many areas: economics, administration, organization, ideology and culture"(Resolution of the 5th Congress).

As regards cadres and party members, the cultural sector has proposed to the party organization that, in addition to other standards, how well they combat superstitious practices should also be a standard in the acceptance of party members, the issuance of party membership cards and the assignment of jobs to cadres.

As for the cultural sector, we are trying to perform our tasks better in researching and formulating regulations, using culture, literary and art forces and establishing ties with the other sectors in order to effectively combat that which must be combated and build that which must be built. In the days ahead, the cultural sector and the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union will launch a nationwide mass campaign toward this end in order to bring about a significant change between now and the major holidays of 1985.

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